


"The characters in  
Dhaliwal's stories sparkle.  
They're tenderly rendered and  
their problems are real."

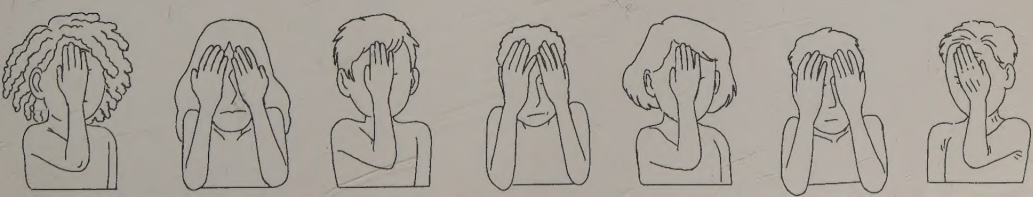
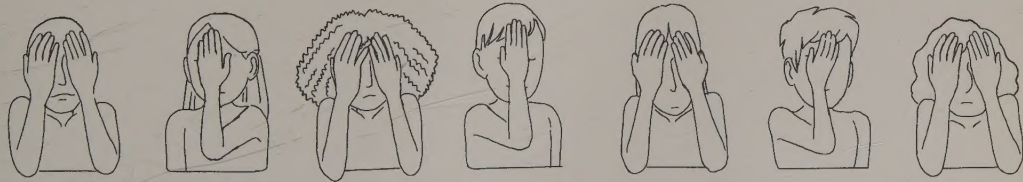
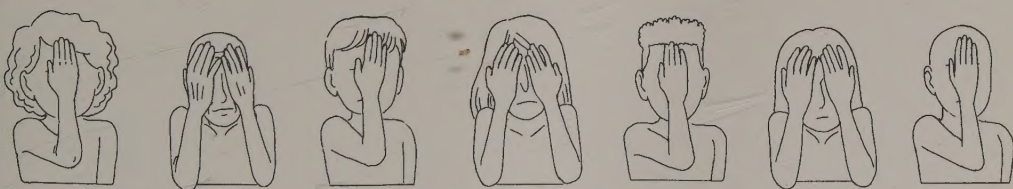
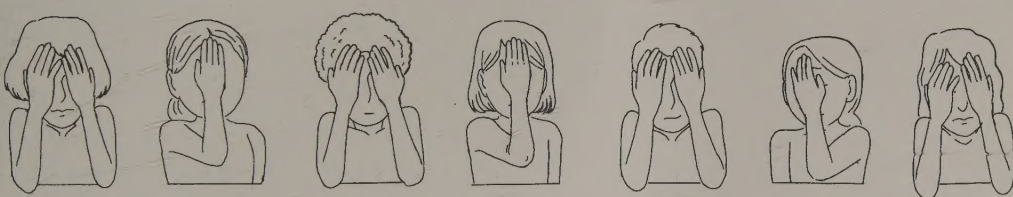
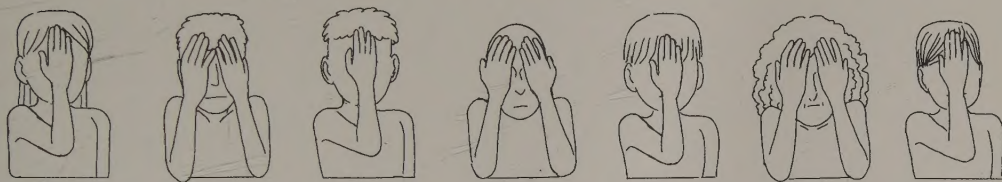
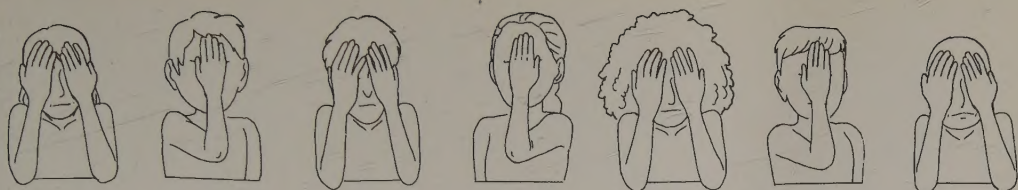
—CARMEN MARIA  
MACHADO

# Cyclopedia Exotica



Aminder Dhaliwal







## OTHER BOOKS BY AMINDER DHALIWAL

*Woman World*

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T E R L Y  
P R E S E N T S



# Cyclopedia Exotica



Aminder Dhaliwal  
Color by Nikolas Ilic



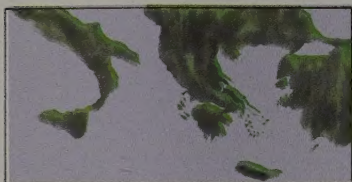


FIG. 01. Map of Cyclops-dense areas.

## The Cyclops

### AN OVERVIEW

Kingdom: Animalia.

The Cyclops is an exotic subspecies of archaic humans that settled in western Eurasia. They thrived through the extinction of other archaic humans because of a tendency to live and hide in caves. The Cyclops's most recognizable feature is the single eye, which cannot see in stereoscopic vision like other humans.

For a great deal of human history, Cyclopes were asocial. While Two-Eyes lived in communities, Cyclopes preferred secluded islands, and built their habitats into natural structures like caves (Figure 03).

For much of recorded history, Two-Eyes and Cyclopes have been at odds. Many myths and stories recount violence between the two. This violence typically occurred near caves and volcanic regions where Cyclops density peaked.

The modern Cyclops is an equal citizen of the world and cohabitates with Two-Eyes.

The following subsections take an in-depth look into the life, body, and history of the Cyclops.

Greek mythology from Two-Eyes culture portrays Cyclopes as monsters (Figure 02). It also

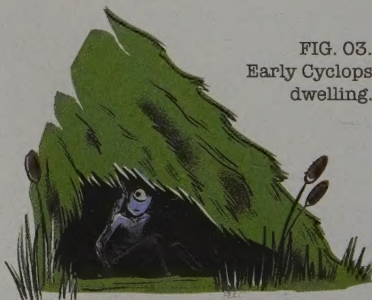


FIG. 02. Illustration of a Cyclops in cave.

portrays Cyclopes as gargantuan and less intelligent than Two-Eyes.

The "less intelligent" stereotype originates from early Cyclopes' communication skills. The Cyclopiian language is concise and specific to herding, and has 13 different terms for sheep of differing temperaments.

FIG. 03.  
Early Cyclopes  
dwelling.



## ANATOMY OVERVIEW

This section will cover Cyclopean sight, breasts, and reproductive means. Current information dictates these are the areas where Cyclopes differ from Two-Eyes.

### THE EYE (Figure 04).

The Cyclops's most iconic feature is the single eye. The mono-eye covers a wide angle and has a greater ability to function in low light. The Cyclopean eye has many features to ensure it thrives. For example, a large tear duct on one end

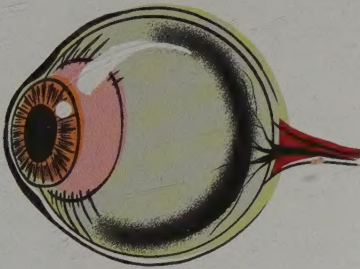


FIG. 04. Cyclops Eye.

pairs with a minuscule secondary duct on the opposing side. Cyclopean eye-lashes are also longer than those of Two-Eyes.

Another peculiar difference is the nose. The nose is flat with minuscule nostrils. This way the nose is not a visual obstruction.

## REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

A two-pronged penis is the main difference in the male Cyclopean

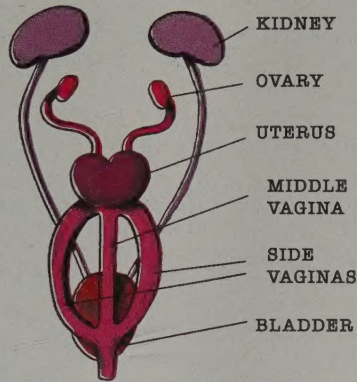


FIG. 05. Cyclops reproductive system.

reproductive organs. The female genitalia include three vaginas and two uteri (Figure 05). This explains the Cyclops's dual pregnancies. In a dual pregnancy, one fertilized egg will grow, while a second fertilized egg remains in stasis. The second egg waits until the first pregnancy has ended.

Another difference is the Cyclops has one breast, although the pectoralis major functions like that of a Two-Eyes (Figure 06).

FIG. 06.  
Female Cyclops  
with one breast.





## HISTORY

Cyclopes have an ancestry as herders. They domesticated ancient sheep, and used them for milk, cheese, clothing, and food (Figure 08).

Cyclopes lived in isolation, but whether Cyclopes preferred seclusion or if it was a learned behavior is not definitively known. The Hunted Theory suggests Cyclopes isolated themselves because Two-Eyes hunted them for their sheep. Cyclopean isolation also lends itself to the Cave Theory, which points to a correlation between multiple progeny from limited sexual encounters.

Geneticists trace Cyclopean origins to Italy and its islands. Cyclopes thrived in this volcanic region, which created nutrient-dense and arable land for farming and sheep herding (Figure 07).

Cyclopes introduced various sheep products to

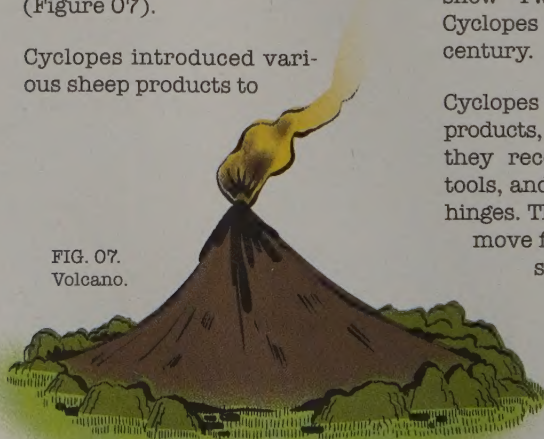


FIG. 07.  
Volcano.



FIG. 08. Ancient sheep.

Two-Eyes, such as sebaceous gland extracts in lanolin. Various Cyclopean mutton dishes have also fused with recipes from Western Europe. Records show Two-Eyes trading with Cyclopes as early as the 17th century.

Cyclopes traded sheep, ovine products, and produce. In return they received spices, farming tools, and metals, like nails and hinges. This allowed Cyclopes to move from caves to self-built structures. Early Cyclopean homes were located beside caves. Caves continued to function as holding pens for the sheep at night.



## VIOLENCE

There is a myth that Cyclopes have violent tendencies. Violence against Cyclopes is much more common. Two-Eyes have historically targeted the single eye in attacks (Figure 09).

There is a common logical fallacy amongst Two-Eyes that frames Cyclopes as violent (Figure 10). The claim, "If Cyclopes have nothing to hide, then why are they hiding?" assumes that an isolated Cyclops is hiding because it is a monster rather than out of fear.



FIG. 09. Cyclops after attack.

Violence against Cyclopes reached an all-time low in 1980, but it spiked again in 1987, because of a string of high-profile murders in Washington State.

Referred to as the Lighthouse Killer, the murderer was not

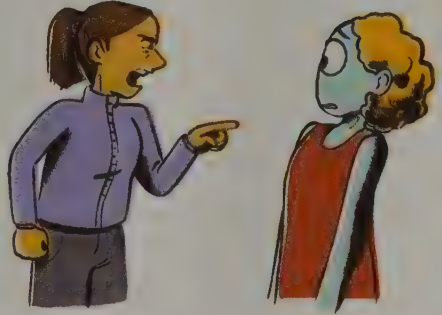


FIG. 10. An interaction between a Two-Eyes and a Cyclops.

caught for two decades. The murders spawned many movies, books, and television shows. Cyclomedia produced a documentary about policing biases and Cyclops safety, called *Eye'd Down* in 2009. It won the Oscar

for best documentary the following year (Figure 11).



FIG. 11.  
Lighthouse.

## WORLDS MERGING

By the late 19th century, Cyclopes integrated into Two-Eyed areas. In some counties, circuses recruited Cyclopes for shows (Figure 12). In other areas, Two-Eyes considered Cyclopes shamans (Figure 13). There were few job opportunities for Cyclopes beyond herding. Publishers turned away Cyclopean authors, while many popular Two-Eyed authors wrote stories featuring Cyclopean leads.

As Cyclopes flocked to cities, Cy-town referred to a part of the city with a denser Cyclops population. In Cy-towns, sheep products and mutton dishes, such as Shlamp, were and still continue to be popular. Sheep tongue was another popular delicacy.

It fell out of favor when Two-Eyes popularized it as a slur.

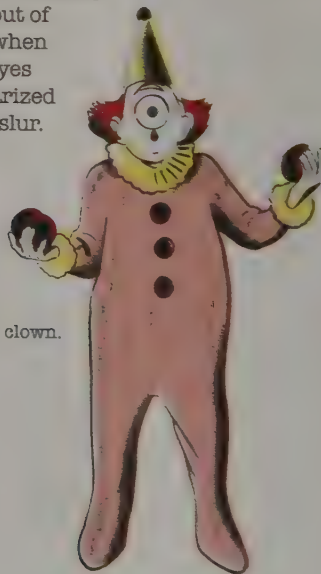


FIG. 12.  
Cyclops clown.



FIG. 13. Cyclops fortune-teller.

Although Cyclopean healthcare is almost equal to Two-Eyed care, there are still shortcomings. Until recently, the UK's National Health Service registered Cyclopes as sight impaired. In Italy, an error in paperwork resulted in the Servizio Sanitario Nazionale labeling many Two-Eyes as 'Cyclopes.' This was a clerical error due to those citizens each having a glass eye.

## MODERN CYCLOPES

The lives of modern Cyclopes (Figure 14) do not differ from those of Two-Eyes. The divides of the past have faded away. A big reason for this is a 1978 magazine cover (see next section 'Etna').



FIG. 14.  
Modern Cyclops  
on the phone.



FIG. 18. Etna.

## Etna

In 1978, Etna appeared on the cover of a popular nude magazine. She was the first Cyclops to cross this threshold.

The company renamed the magazine "Playclops" for the issue. Because of the cover's popularity, "Playclops" spun off into its own magazine five years later.

Many regard Etna as the first Cyclops sex symbol. Etna brought Cyclops sexuality to the mainstream.

The original intent of the magazine was to cater to a growing Cyclops demographic. Yet, surveys show no difference in magazine sales among Two-Eyes and Cyclopes.

Etna later dated Clark Staple, a young Hollywood actor. Many Two-Eyes considered the couple scandalous. Because of public outcry, *The Happy Morning Show* canceled Clark and Etna's appearance.

After the  
back from  
stead, cl

OH...HI!  
YOU'RE READING  
ABOUT ME, I SEE.

See Appendix sec-  
tion, "Etna" for  
her return to the

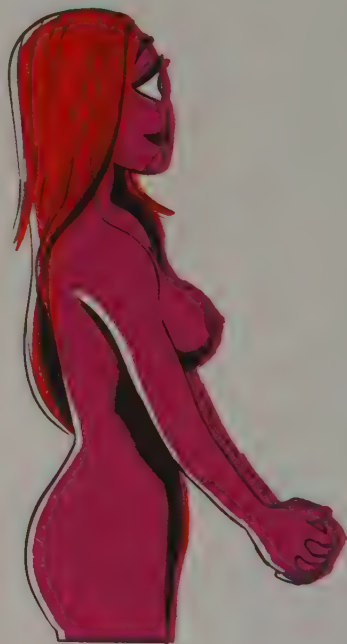
BLEGH! WHAT A  
DULL WAY TO LEARN  
ABOUT A MINORITY.



\*  
G.  
S.  
ET  
N  
A.



THERE WE GO!  
FORGET THAT BORING  
TYPE. I MEAN, UNLESS  
YOU MISS STATISTICS  
AND FIGURES?



I DIDN'T THINK  
SO. BESIDES, I  
THINK THERE'S  
A BETTER WAY  
TO "STUDY" US.



OPERA EXOTICA

HERE'S THE CLIFF'S  
NOTES: 1 EYE, 1  
BREAST, 3 VAGINAS.



BUT ALSO AN ENTIRE  
PERSONALITY AND  
PERSONAL HISTORY NO  
ENCYCLOPEDIA COULD  
EVER CAPTURE.

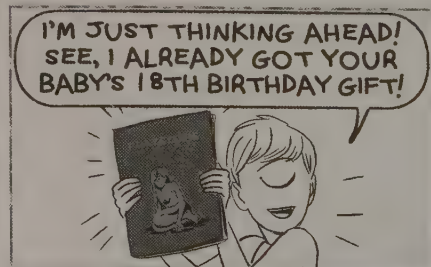
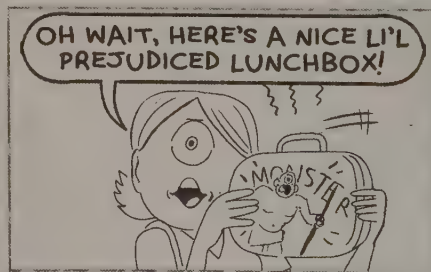
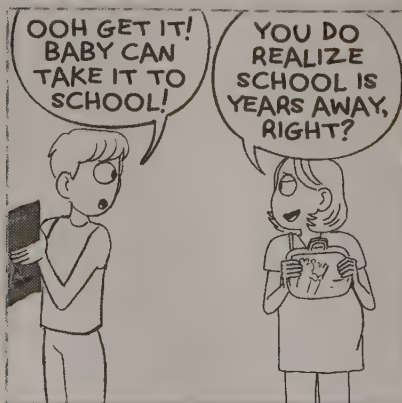
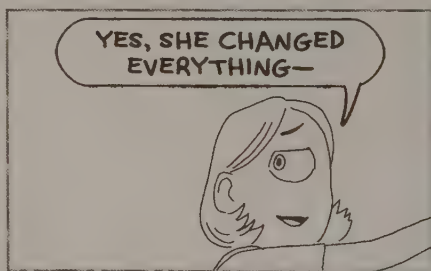
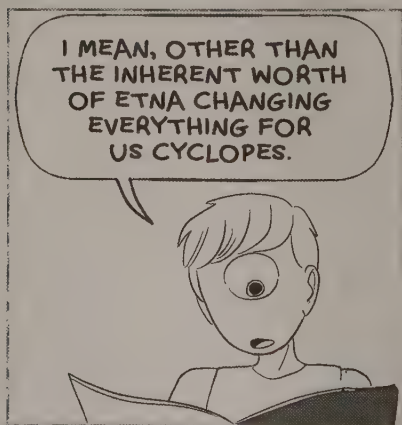




# PLAYCLOPS



# Latea and Pari shop



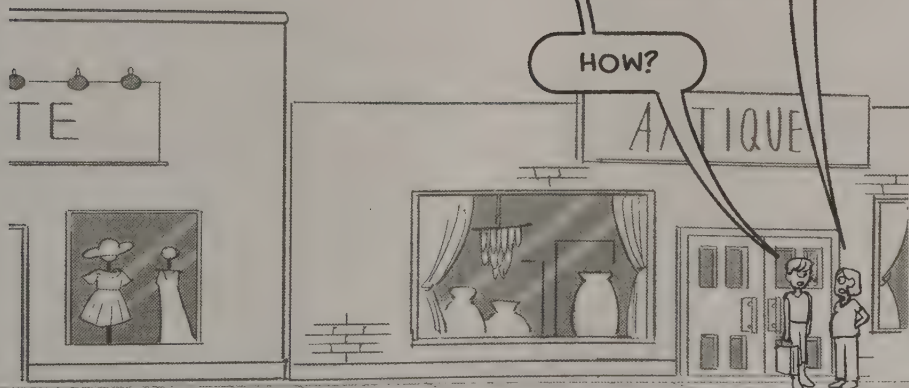
BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THINGS  
HAVE CHANGED A LOT FOR CYCLOPES  
SINCE THAT "PLAYCLOPS" COVER.

YEAH...SURE...  
A BIG CHANGE IS TWO-EYES  
FOUND A NEW MARKET TO  
CAPITALIZE ON. THEY  
STARTED SELLING US  
PRODUCTS TO MAKE US  
LOOK MORE LIKE THEM.

WELL...

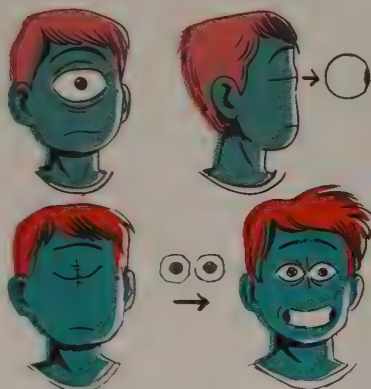
THEY REINFORCED  
THAT TWO-EYES  
WERE "NORMAL"  
AND WE WEREN'T.

HOW?



## EYE JOB

### COSMETIC-EYE TREATMENT



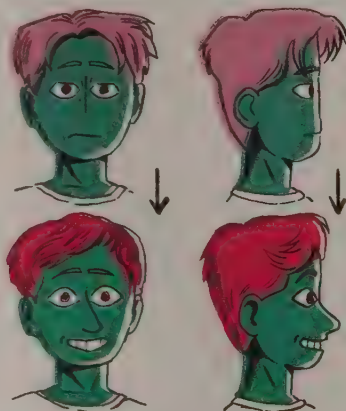
\*USES HUMAN EYE DONORS

THOSE  
EXPERIMENTAL  
EYE SURGERIES...

OR THE SECRET  
TO HAPPINESS IS  
A NOSE, OR THE  
SOLUTION TO  
DEPRESSION IS  
A BRA?!

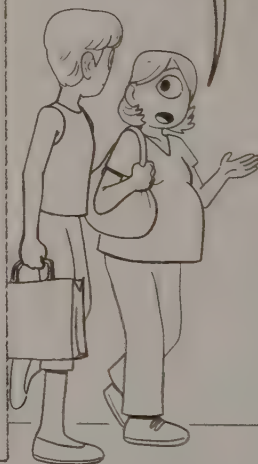
## NOSE SCULPTING

### POST COSMETIC EYE TREATMENT RHINOPLASTY



\*NOSE DOES NOT HAVE WORKING NOSTRILS.  
FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES ONLY.

THERE'S  
NO REVERSE  
MARKETPLACE.  
WHAT TWO-EYES  
WANTS TO LOOK  
MORE LIKE A  
CYCLOPS?





WHAT'S THE SECRET  
TO HER CONFIDENCE?



THE FREEDOM TO BE  
WHO SHE WANTS TO BE!

The  
LIFT & SEPARATOR



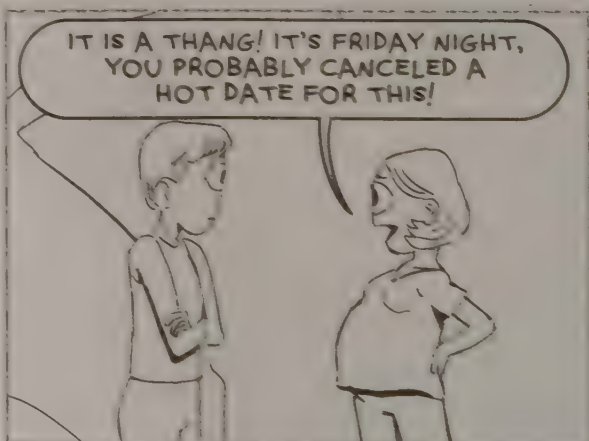
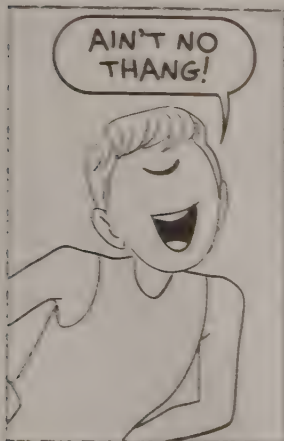
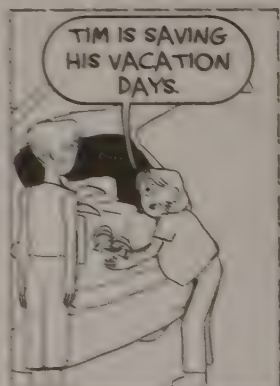
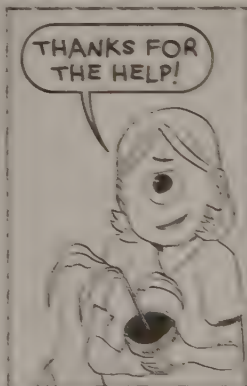
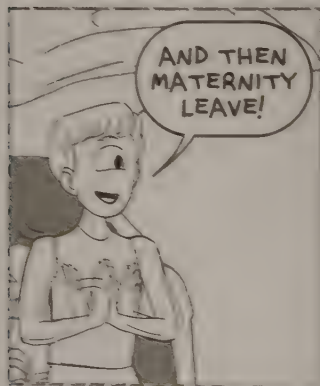
FOR NO MORE UNI-BOOB!

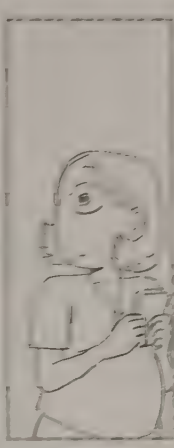
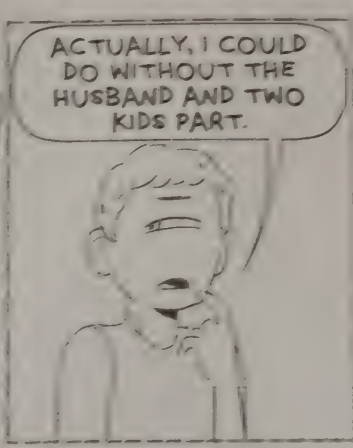
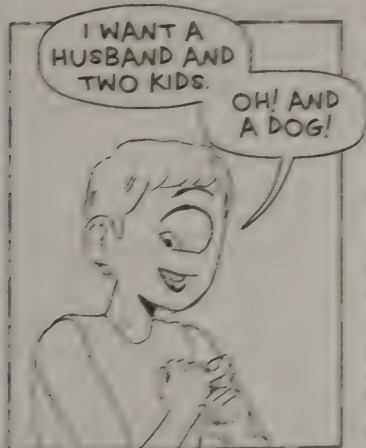
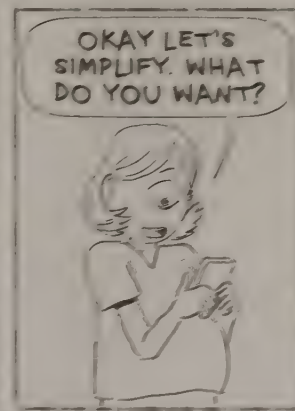
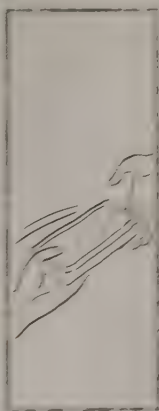
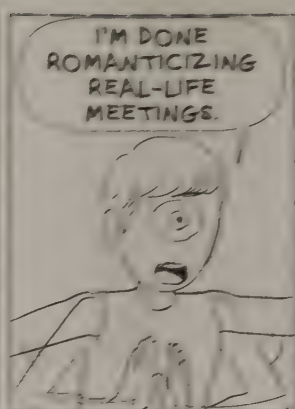
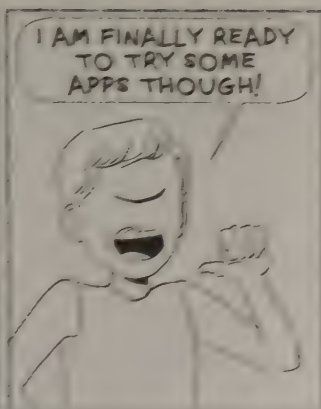
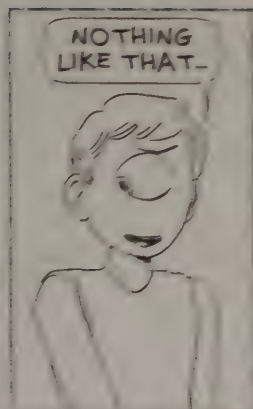
DAMN, YOU'RE  
RIGHT. YOU'RE  
ALWAYS RIGHT.

TIM USUALLY  
SAYS THAT  
TOO.



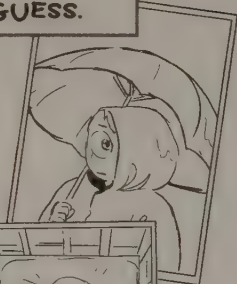
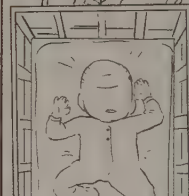
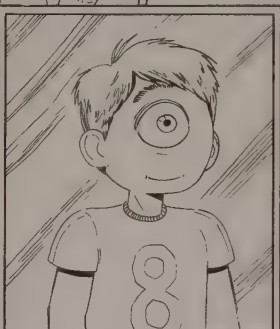
## pari goes on maternity leave



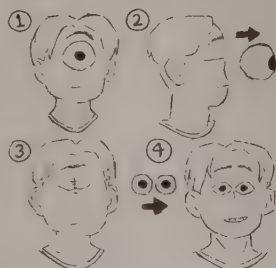


# Bron's history

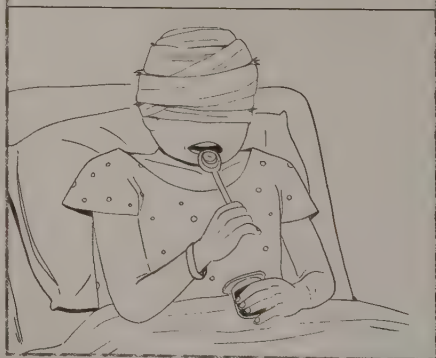
I WAS A SHY KID.  
INSECURE, I GUESS.



WHEN UNIFEYE<sup>®</sup> CAME  
OUT WITH THEIR EYE  
SURGERY, I WAS PRETTY  
EXCITED.



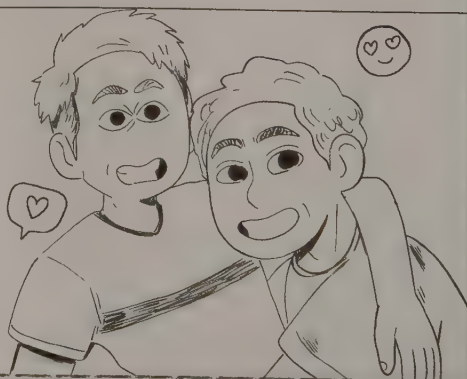
I WAS ONE OF THE  
FIRST TO SIGN UP.



THE SURGERY WENT  
PERFECTLY. I WAS SO  
READY TO FINALLY  
LIVE MY LIFE.



I WAS DATING!



AND TRAVELING!  
LIFE WAS GOOD!



THERE WERE THREE  
OTHER CASES OF  
EYE DECAY BEFORE  
MINE STARTED  
TO GO.

SO IT WASN'T A  
COMPLETE SURPRISE...

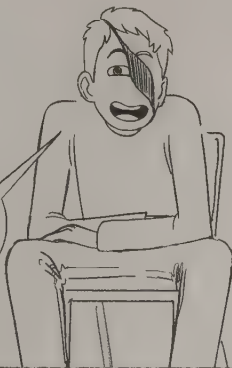


THERE'S SOME COSMIC  
IRONY FOR YOU. ONCE  
A CYCLOPS, ALWAYS  
A CYCLOPS.



E  
F P  
T O Z  
L P E D  
P E C F D  
E D F Z P  
THANKS  
READERS

SO ANYWAY, DOCTOR,  
I'M HERE TO GET MORE  
EYEPATCHES.





# The optometrist



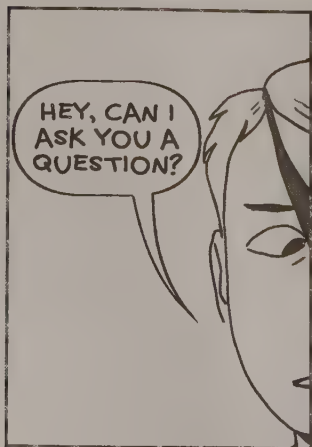
OKAY, YEAH, I CAN APPROVE  
PATCHES WITH YOUR  
HEALTHCARE PROVIDER.



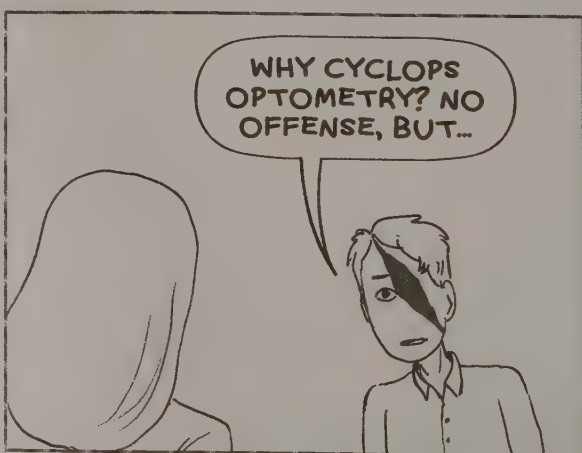
THANKS, DOC.



HEY, CAN I  
ASK YOU A  
QUESTION?



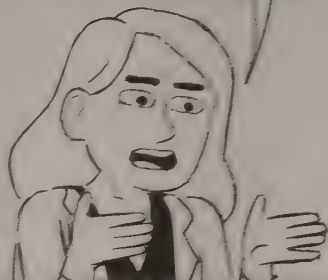
WHY CYCLOPS  
OPTOMETRY? NO  
OFFENSE, BUT...



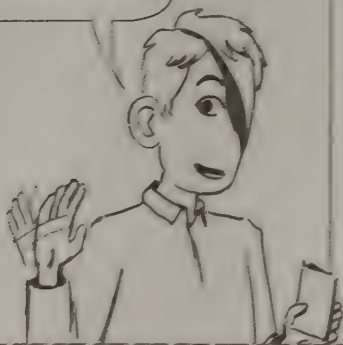
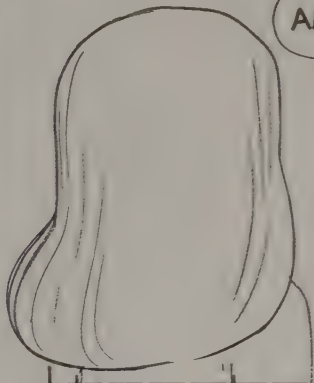
NO WORRIES, Y'SEE  
I STARTED IN TWO-EYES  
OPTOMETRY.



BUT CYCLOPS OCULAR  
ANATOMY IS FASCINATING!  
I REALLY FEEL LIKE I MADE  
THE RIGHT DECISION.



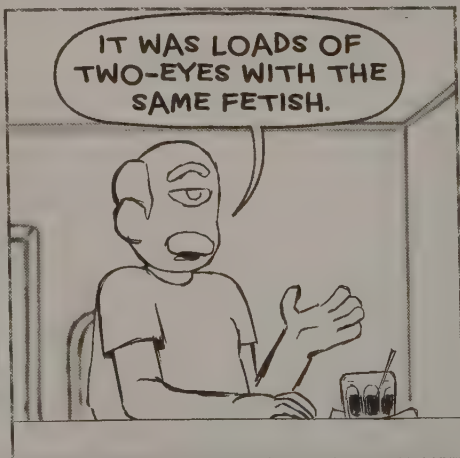
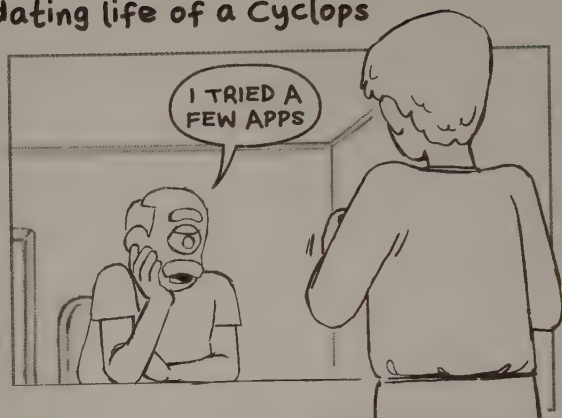
ALRIGHT, THANKS DOC!

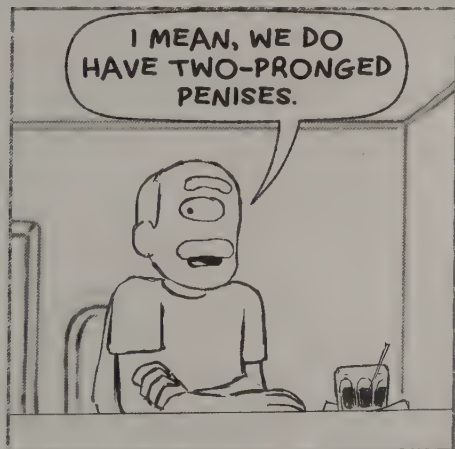
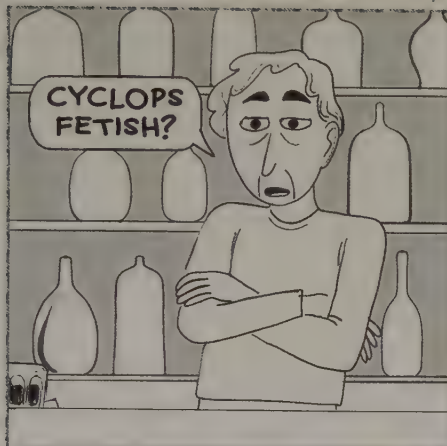


IT ALSO ALLOWED ME TO  
CUT MY HOURS IN HALF!



# Pol and the dating life of a Cyclops

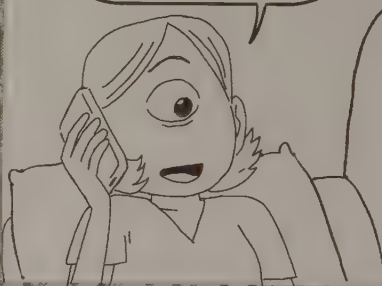




I GOT AN OFFER TO  
MODEL CONTACT  
LENSES FOR UNIFEYE.



AWESOME, AND  
YOU'RE GOING  
TO DO IT?



I DUNNO. IT MAKES ME FEEL...COMPLICIT?  
UNIFEYE WAS THE COMPANY THAT DID  
THAT BOTCHED EYE AUGMENTATION  
SURGERY, REMEMBER?



BUT I NEED  
THE MONEY.

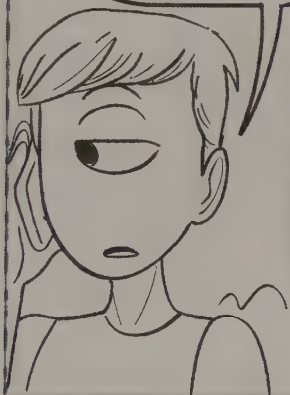


DO YOU WANT ME  
TO SAY THAT YOU  
SHOULD DO IT?





I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT I WANT YOU  
TO SAY. I'VE JUST  
BEEN THINKING  
ABOUT LIFE AND  
HOW I WANT TO  
DO SOMETHING...  
RELEVANT,  
SOMETHING THAT  
MATTERS. BUT,  
DOES ANY JOB  
EVEN MATTER?

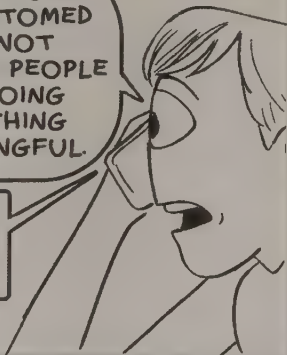


IT JUST FEELS LIKE  
I'M "DOING JOBS"  
BECAUSE I NEED  
TO MAKE MONEY.



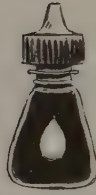
I'VE BECOME  
ACCUSTOMED  
TO NOT  
HELPING PEOPLE  
OR DOING  
ANYTHING  
MEANINGFUL.

SO WHAT  
ARE YOU  
GOING  
TO DO?



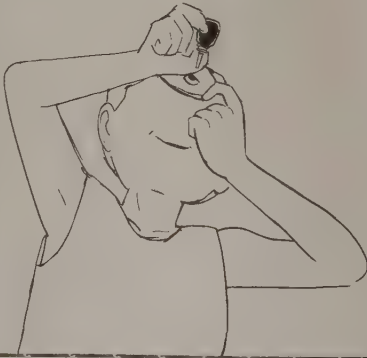
I'M GOING TO SWIPE ON SOME TINDER PEOPLE,  
GO TO BED, AND WAKE UP AND MODEL CONTACT  
LENSES FOR UNIFEYE AND GET PAID, I GUESS.





# NEW FROM *Unif Eye*

One Quick Drop



Keeps You Fresh\*  
\*may cause psychic visions



PAPA, NO! DON'T TAKE  
THAT TRAIN!



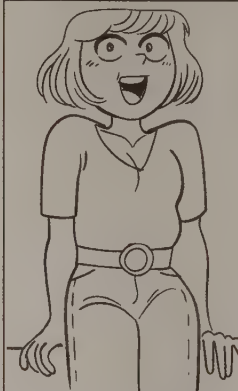


UnifEye

CONTACT LENSES

Pol & Crystal

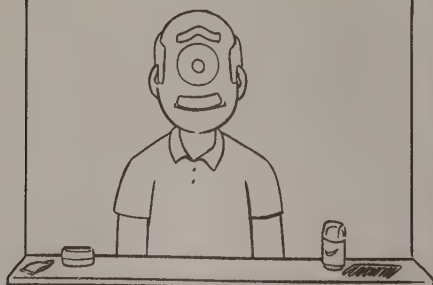
MATCH♥



I MATCHED WITH CRYSTAL ON TINDER. SHE MADE FUN OF MY PICTURES, BUT I BET SHE'S SWEET.



I SUPPOSE I'M A HOPELESS OPTIMIST!



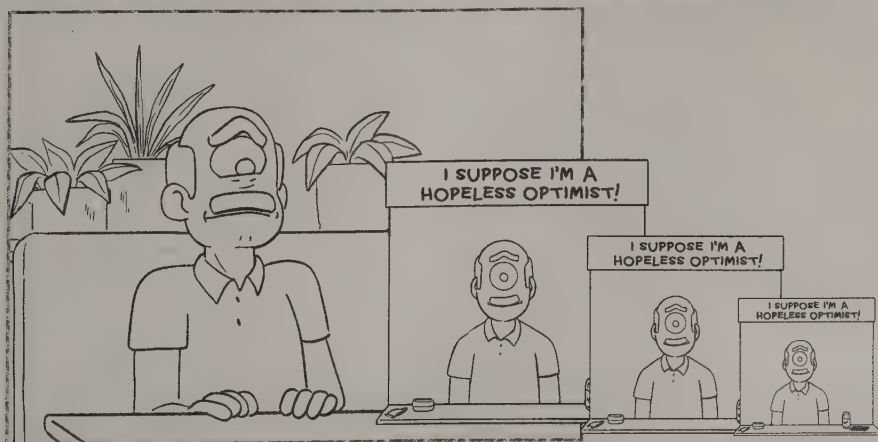
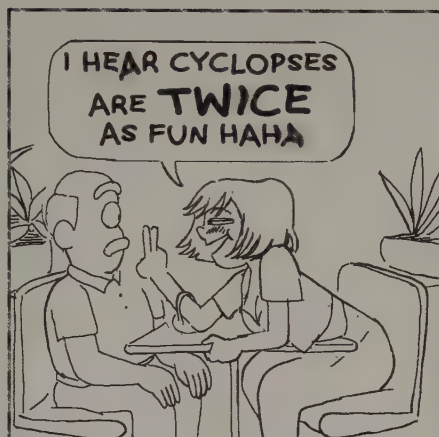
HEY, SORRY I'M LATE. I WAS OUT WITH MY GIRLS DRINKING

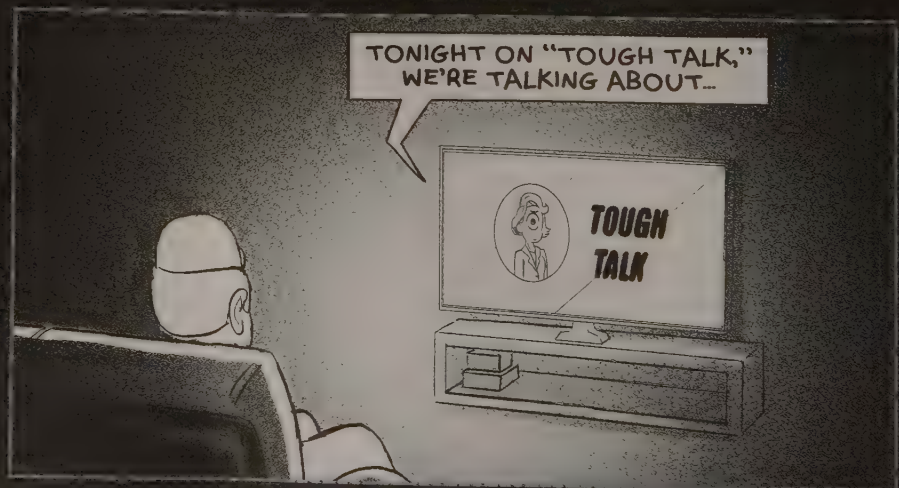
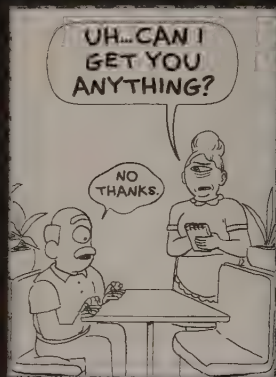


NO WORRIES  
SO, MY FRIEND JADE IS DOWN TO PARTY IF YOU WANNA COME BACK TO MY PLACE?

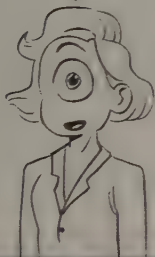




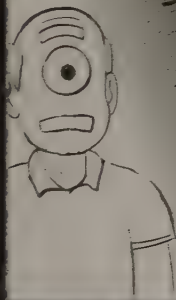




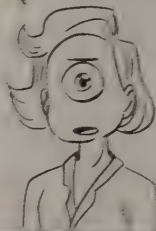
FEELING USED.



TOUGH  
TALK



WE'RE TALKING  
TO VY. SHE WAS  
THE FACE OF  
THE LIFT AND  
SEPARATOR.



TOUGH  
TALK

FOOTAGE FROM L&S



TIRED  
OF  
UNI-BOOB?  
TRY THE NEW

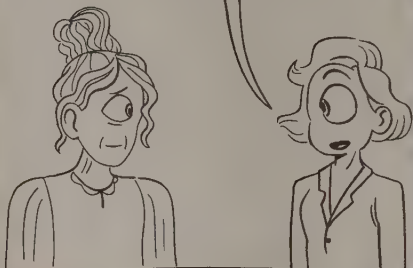


AND  
FEEL  
THE  
CONFIDENCE

\*BRA DOES NOT SEPARATE

\*COMFORT IS DEPENDENT ON INDIVIDUAL

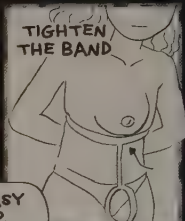
THANKS FOR JOINING US, VY.  
TELL US, HOW DOES IT FEEL  
REWATCHING THE COMMERCIAL?



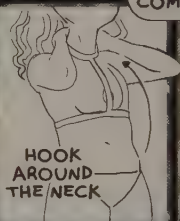
TOUGH  
TALK



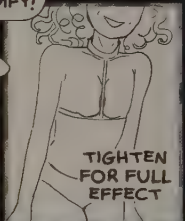
TIGHTEN  
THE BAND



EASY  
&  
COMFY!



HOOK  
AROUND  
THE NECK



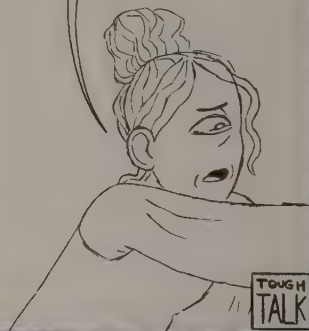
TIGHTEN  
FOR FULL  
EFFECT

IT'S HARD, BECAUSE  
IT WAS EASY MONEY. A  
DAY'S WORTH OF WORK.



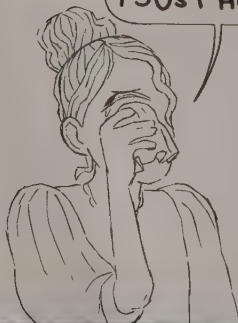
TOUGH  
TALK

I STILL GET HATE MAIL.



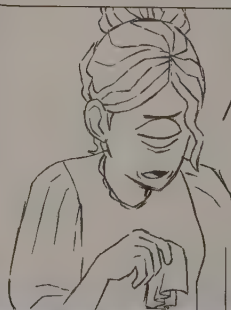
TOUGH  
TALK

I JUST  
*SNIFE*  
I JUST HOPE...



TOUGH  
TALK

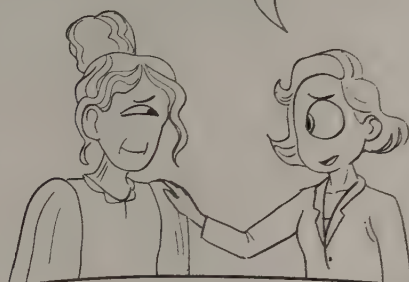
I DIDN'T MAKE ANY  
YOUNG CYCLOPS FEEL  
BAD ABOUT THEMSELVES.



TOUGH  
TALK



POWERFUL STUFF.

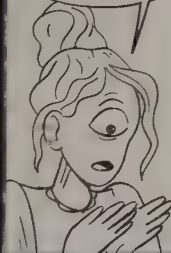


TOUGH  
TALK

NOW I RUN A MEDIA  
LITERACY GROUP FOR  
YOUNG CYCLOPES.  
I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT  
THEY LEARN TO  
UNDERSTAND...



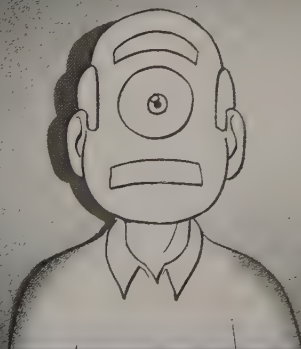
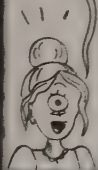
WHERE THESE  
IMAGES COME  
FROM, WHO  
PRODUCES THEM,  
WHY THEY'RE  
PRODUCED, AND  
WHO BENEFITS.



THAT'S A  
LOT TO  
TEACH.



YES, BUT  
WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
IMPORTANT  
THINGS...  
I'M A  
HOPELESS  
OPTIMIST.



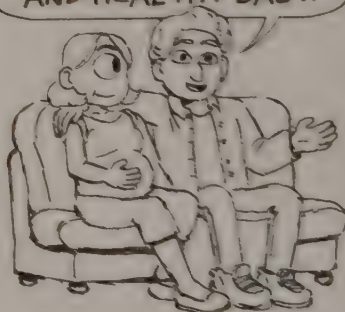
# Tim and Pari's baby



NO, WE WANT TO  
KEEP IT A SURPRISE!



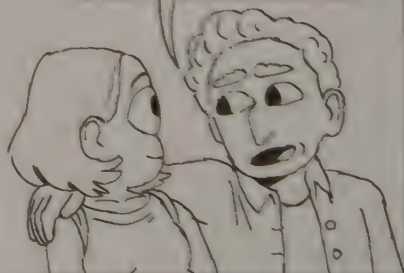
ONE EYE OR TWO,  
WE JUST WANT A HAPPY  
AND HEALTHY BABY.

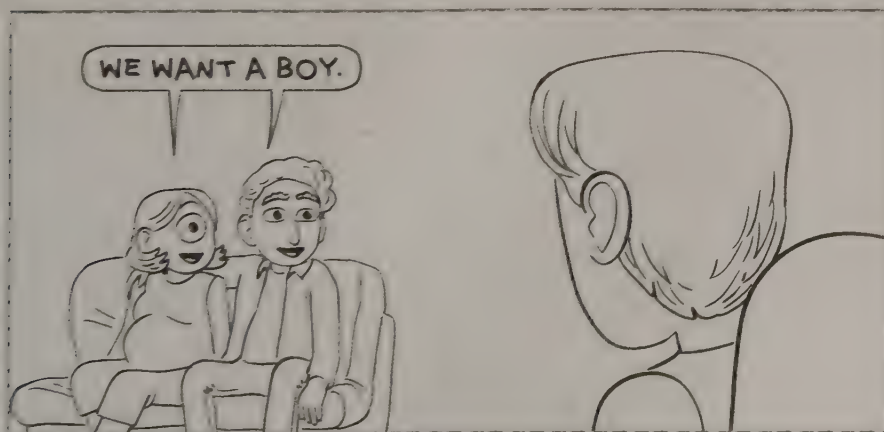
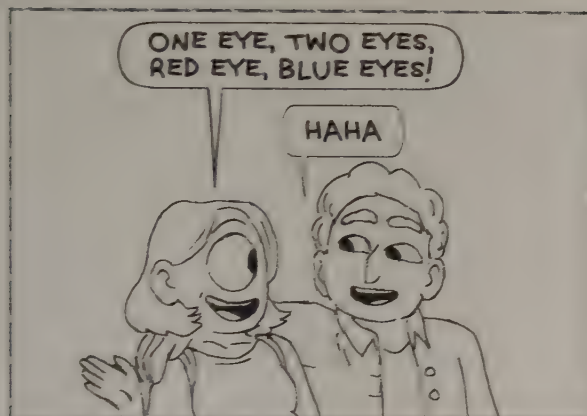


YEAH, EYE-COUNT  
REALLY DOESN'T  
MATTER TO US!









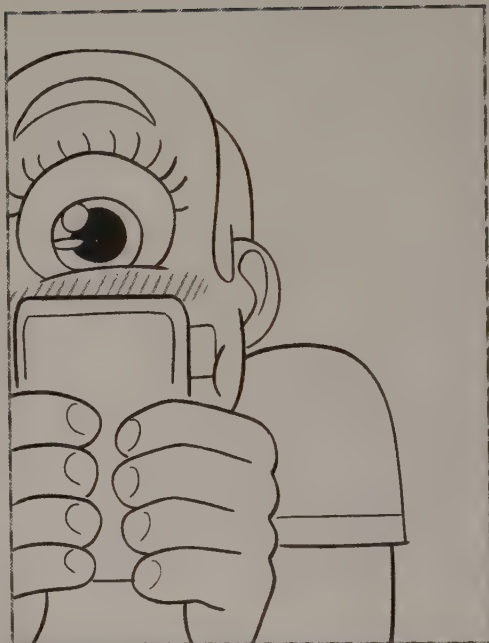
I CAN'T BELIEVE SOME  
PEOPLE CARE ABOUT  
THAT STUFF!





31 minutes

PARISA		2:14 PM
MESSAGES		ADDIT
	YEAH TOTALLY.	000
YOU'RE SO EASY TO TALK TO!		
	SO YOU WANNA MEET UP?	
YEAH! LET'S DO IT		
	...JUST A REMINDER, I'M A CYCLOPS	2:14 PM
LOL I KNOW. OMG. ARE PEOPLE WEIRD ABOUT THAT?!		
	YEPPEP.	2:15 PM
UGH I'M SORRY. SOME PEOPLE ARE THE WORST.		
	SO HOW'S FRIDAY?	2:16 PM
SURE, BUT FIRST, HOW TALL ARE YOU?		
	5'9"	2:17 PM
	SO FRIDAY?	2:46 PM
	HELLO?	2:17 PM





# Masks

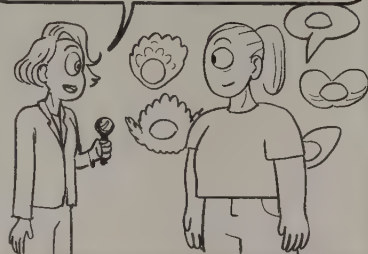
## TOUGH TALK



TONIGHT ON  
"TOUGH TALK"  
WE'RE TALKING  
TO LIAN, THE  
OWNER OF  
MASKED.



A TRUE CINDERELLA STORY,  
LIAN WAS ATTENDING  
A MASQUERADE AND  
COULDN'T FIND MASKS  
FOR CYCLOPES IN STORES.



I WAS TOLD  
THERE'S NOT  
ENOUGH DEMAND  
TO PRODUCE  
THEM AT A  
PROFIT.



SO I USED  
MY SAVINGS TO  
START MAKING  
MY OWN  
MASQUERADE  
MASKS...!



I WAS AN INSTANT  
SUCCESS! I COULDN'T  
KEEP UP WITH  
THE ORDERS!



SO, NOW THAT I'VE SHOWN ALL  
THE BIG MASK COMPANIES THERE'S  
A DEMAND, THEY'VE STARTED  
MAKING THEM TOO—BUT SINCE  
THEY HAVE MORE MONEY FOR  
PRODUCTION AND ADVERTISING,  
I'M GOING OUT OF BUSINESS...BUT  
I GUESS I DID END UP SHOWING  
THOSE BIG COMPANIES  
THERE'S A DEMAND.



SO...  
YAY...  
EXCUSE ME.





Blind date

MY COWORKER ANITA  
SAID SHE HAS THE PERFECT  
BLIND DATE FOR ME!



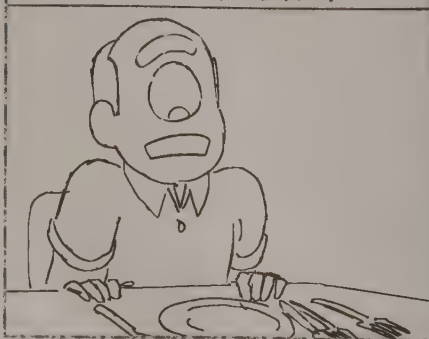
APPARENTLY, WE HAVE A  
LOT IN COMMON...



MAYBE SHE'S ALSO  
VEGETARIAN?

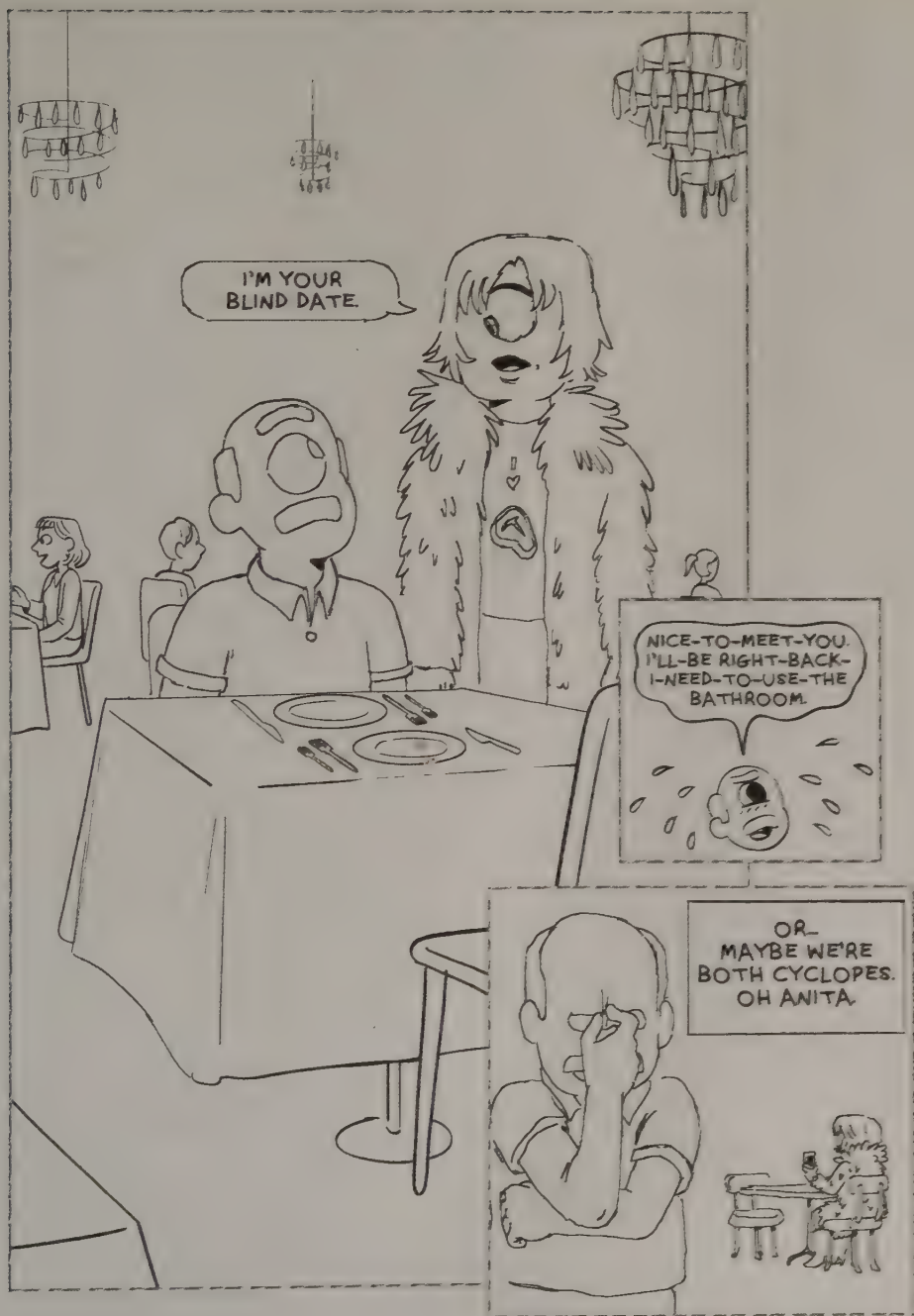


OR MAYBE SHE VOLUNTEERS  
IN THE ANIMAL RESCUE WORLD  
AS WELL? SHE BETTER BE  
ANTI-FUR AT LEAST!

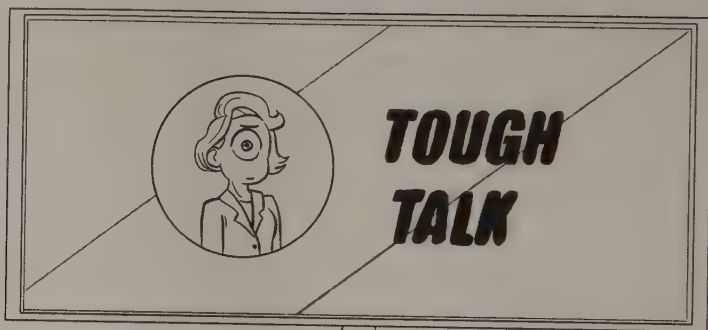


ARE YOU  
ANITA'S FRIEND?





Tonight on...



TONIGHT ON  
"TOUGH TALK" WE'RE  
DISCUSSING ISSUES  
THAT PLAGUE CYCLOPS  
COMMUNITIES.



OVER THE NEXT HOUR  
WE'LL COVER ISSUES OF  
PROFILING, SEXUAL  
VIOLENCE, AND...



BLINDSPOTS!



AND INAPPROPRIATE  
JOKES.





What?

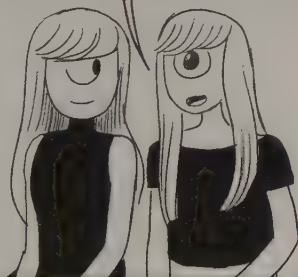
YEP, I WAS THE ORIGINAL  
PHOTOGRAPHER.



WE'D LOVE TO  
USE IT FOR OUR  
GALLERY SHOW.



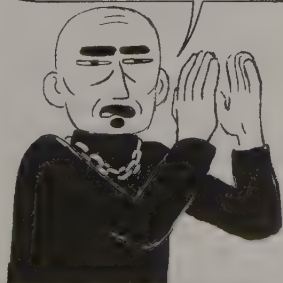
THE GALLERY SHOW  
IS ABOUT HOW  
CYCLOPES ARE  
VIEWED AND PROFILED.



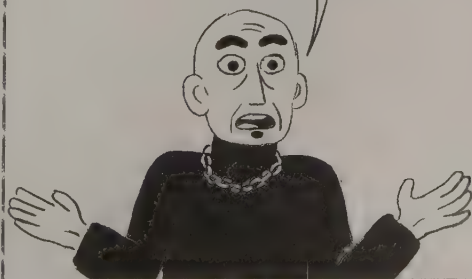
OH, I  
TOTALLY  
GET IT!

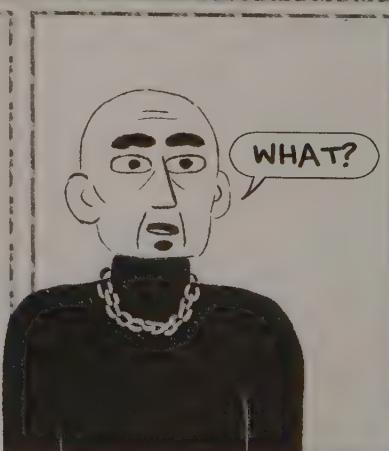
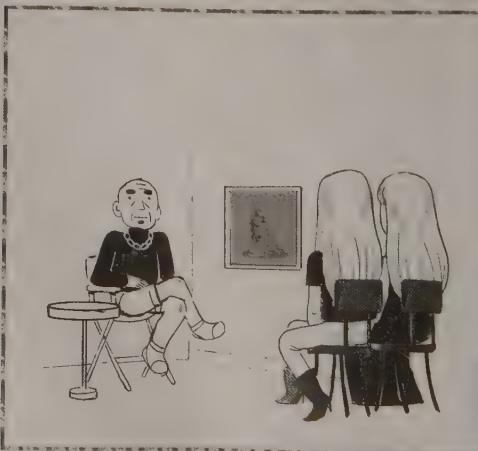
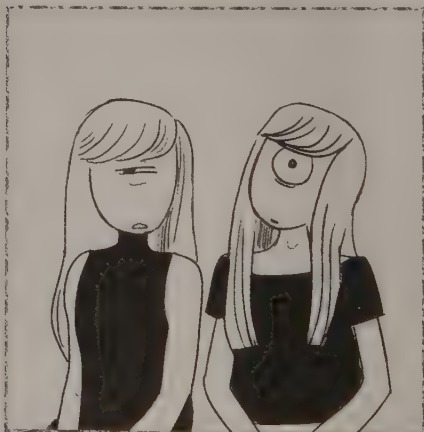
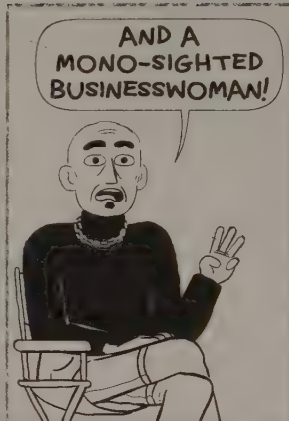
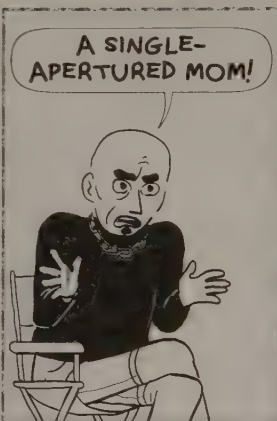
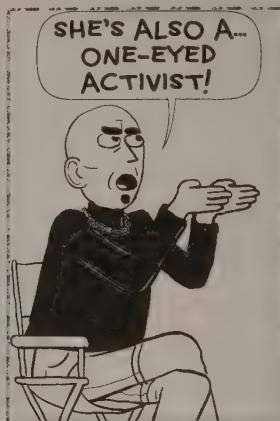


WHEN THE MAGAZINE  
LAUNCHED, A LOT OF  
PEOPLE TRIED TO PUT  
ETNA IN A BOX.



BUT SHE'S NOT  
JUST A  
CYCLOPS MODEL!





UUH. SO TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR ART.



WELL, WE'VE  
MADE ART  
TOGETHER FOR  
OVER A DECADE.

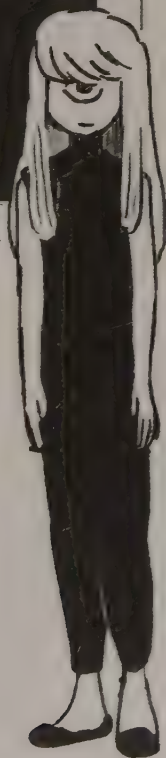


WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON  
MAKING PIECES THAT ARE  
SUBTLE AND ABSTRACT.

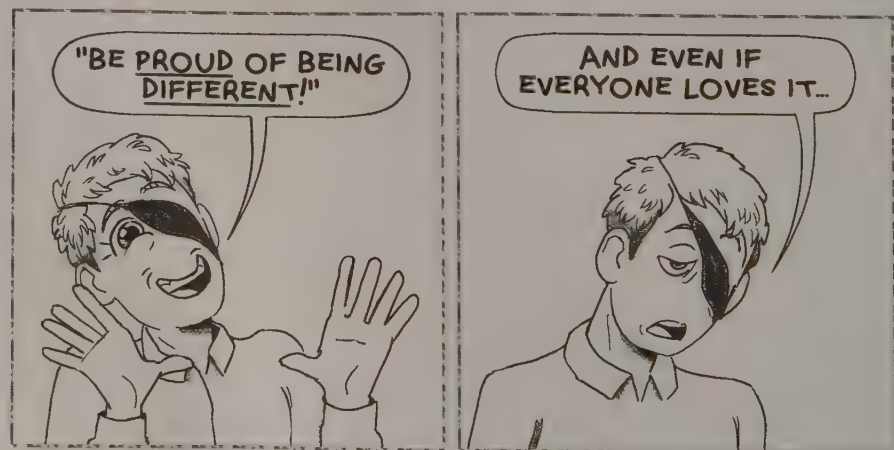


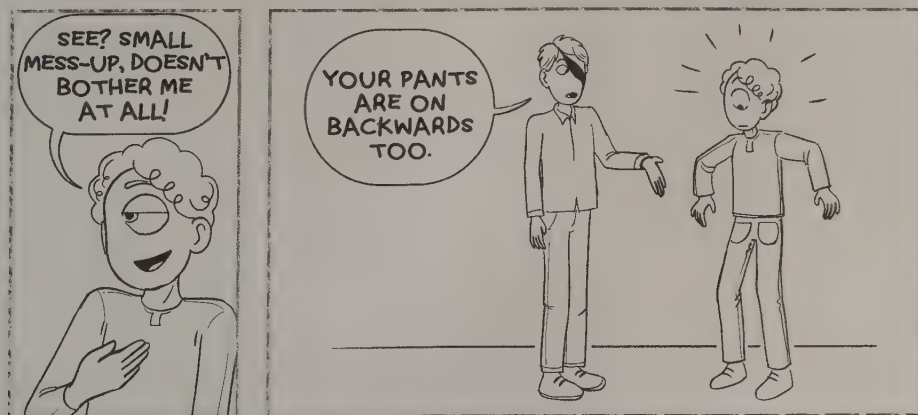
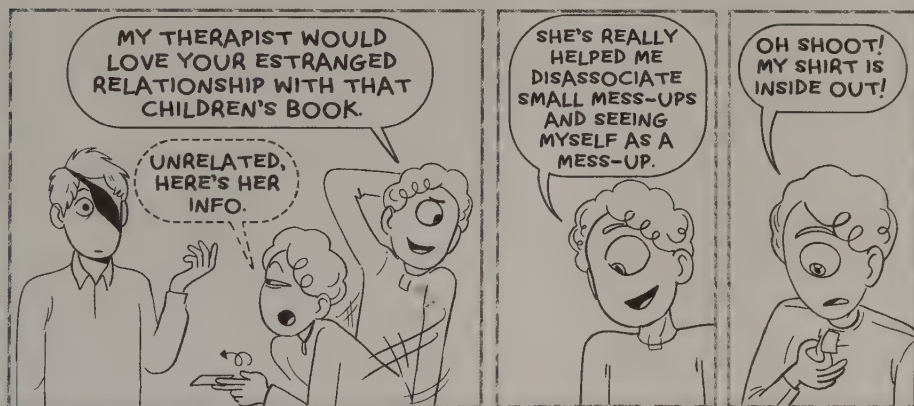




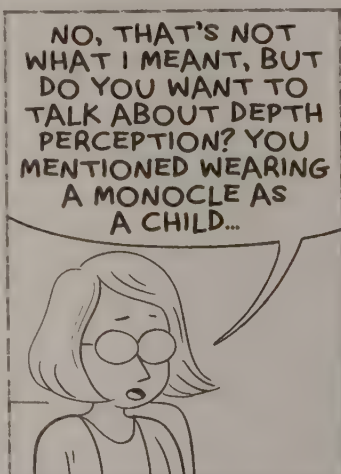
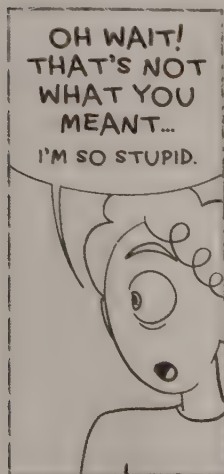
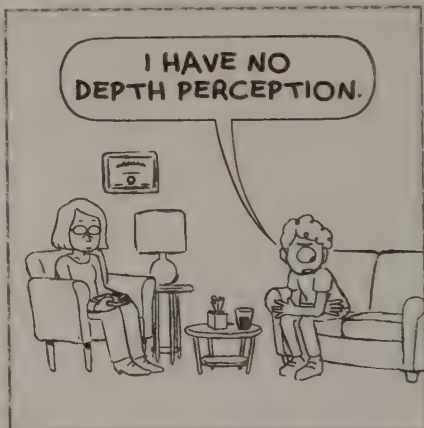
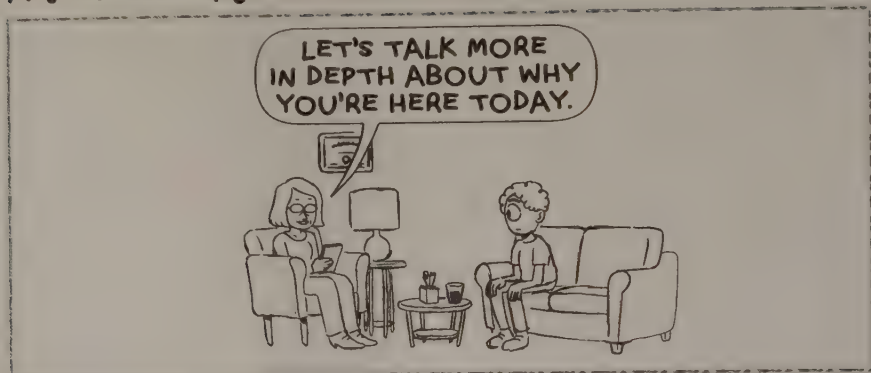


# Different and proud



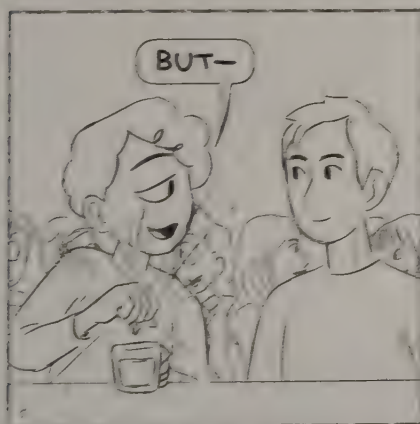
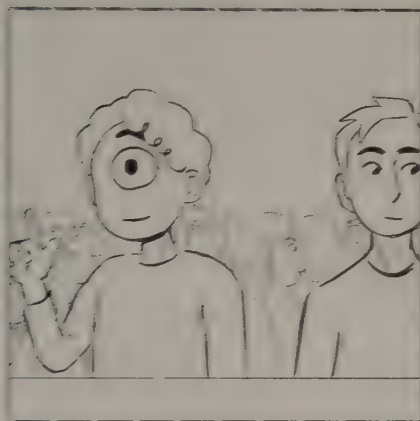


# Arj at therapy





# Arj's Friday night

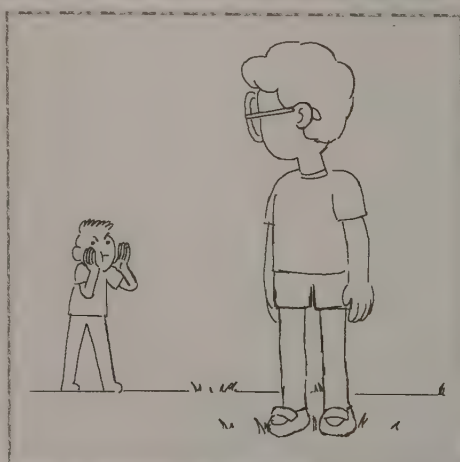
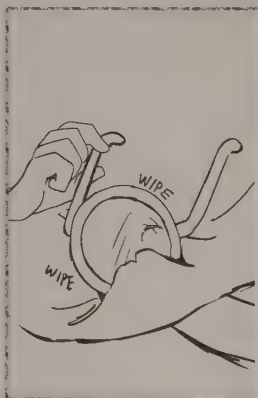
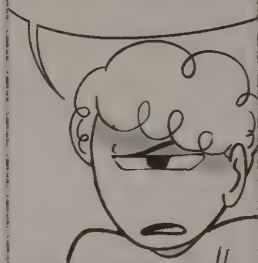


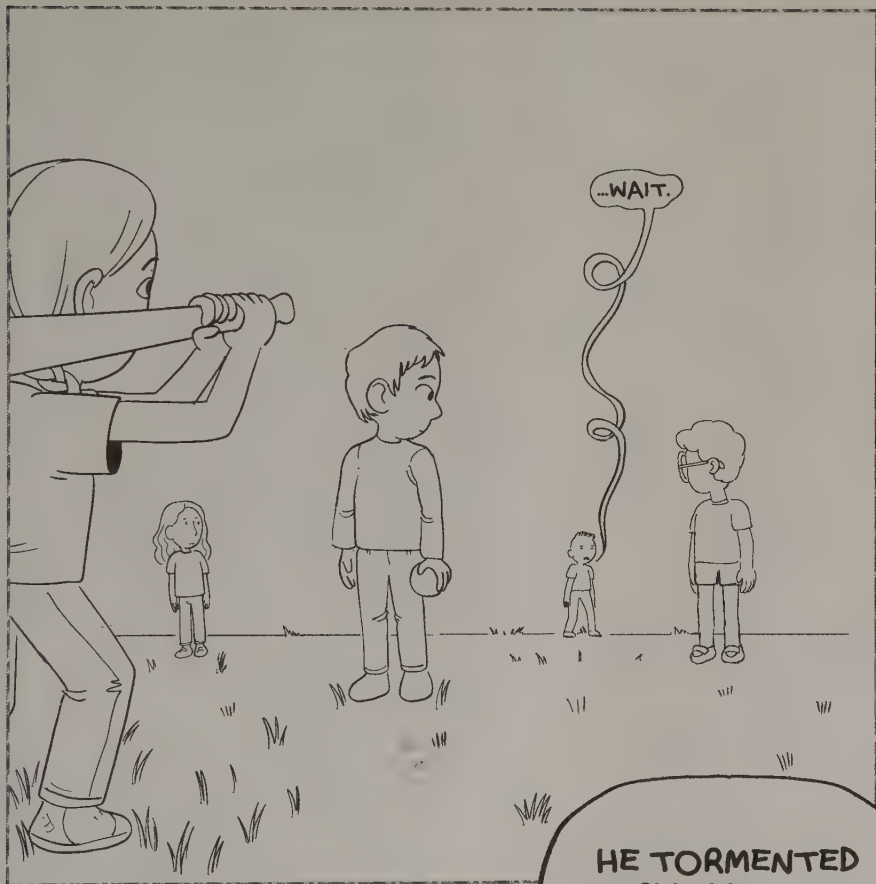
# The monocle

PUTTING THAT  
MONOCLE ON AGAIN  
TOOK ME BACK...



TO ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL AND  
MY BULLY...  
ERIC WOOD.





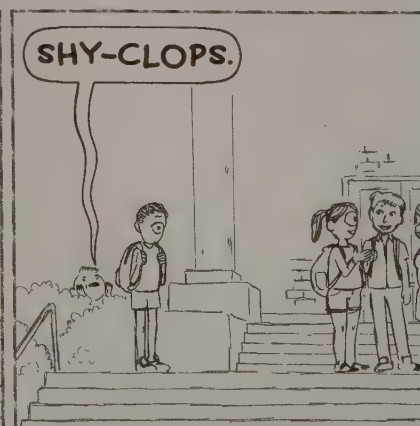
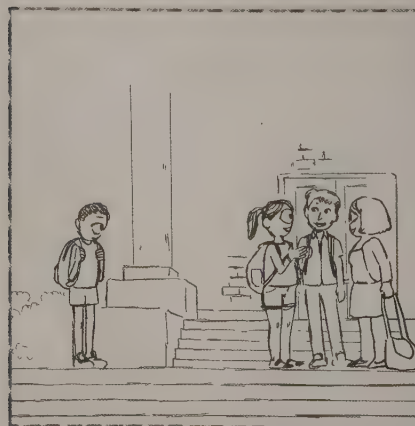
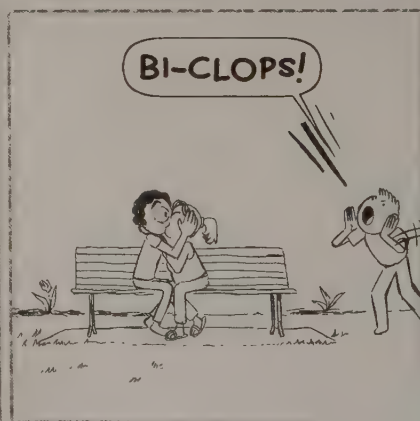
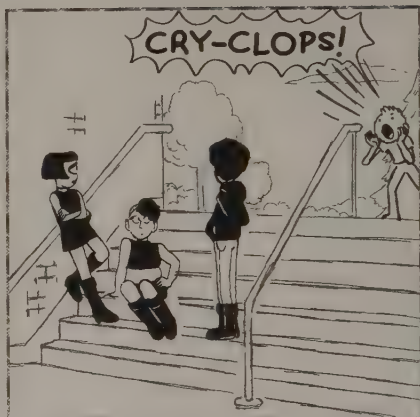
HE ACTUALLY MADE YOU WAIT  
FOR A BETTER INSULT AFTER  
HIS FIRST ONE HAD FLOPPED!

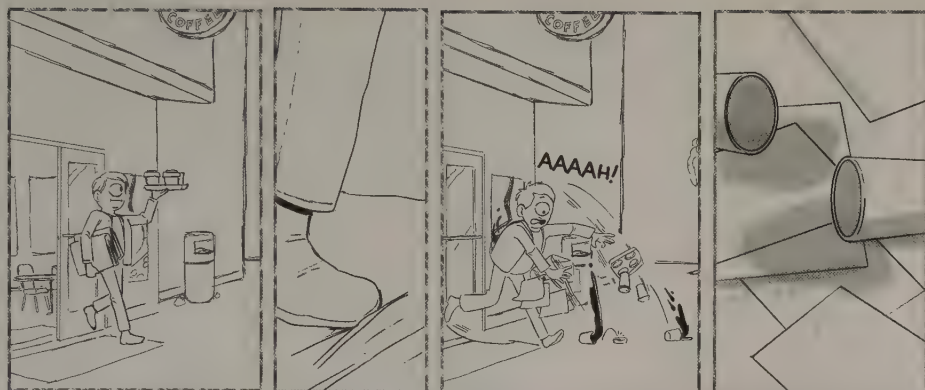


HE TORMENTED  
EVERY CYCLOPS IN  
TOWN. HE WAS  
THE WORST!



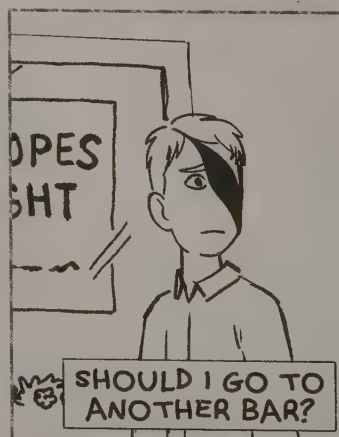
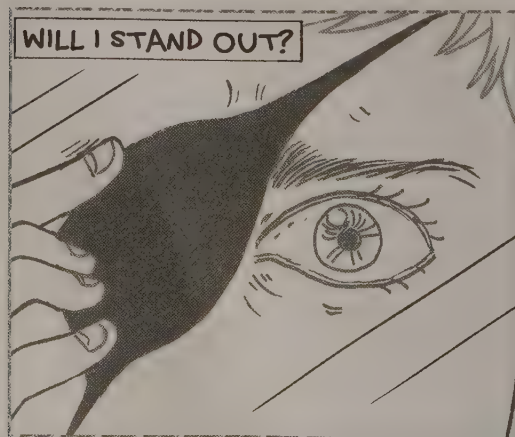
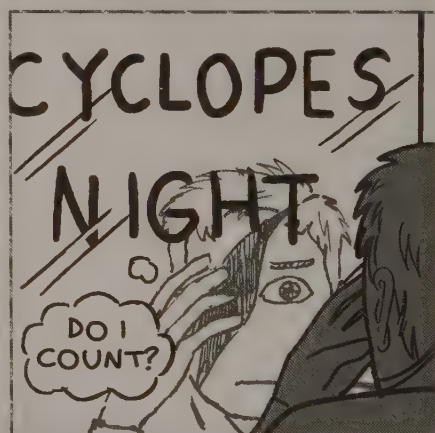
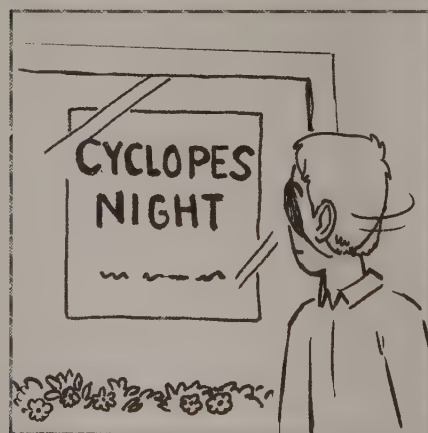
# The adventures of Eric Wood







# Cyclopes night



BUT WHERE DO  
I BELONG?



IS THERE A PLACE FOR  
SOMEONE LIKE ME?

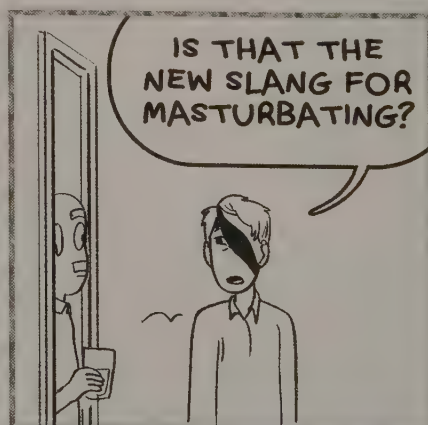
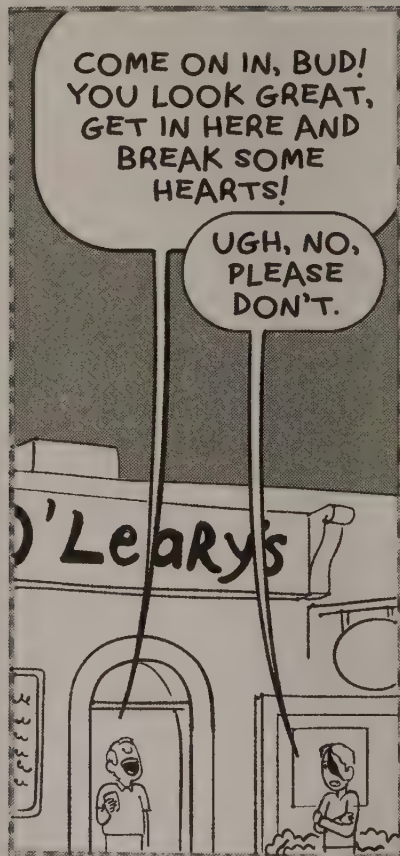


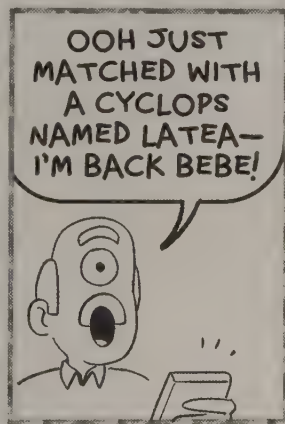
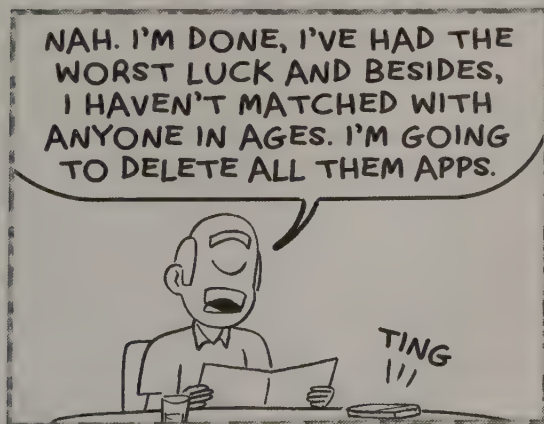
HEY, BRON!  
COMING IN?



I DON'T KNOW  
IF I FIT IN...

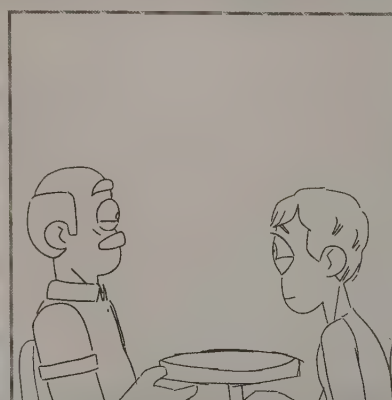
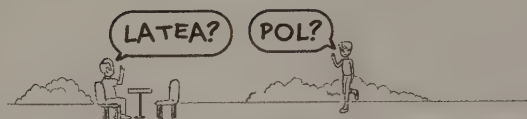








# First date

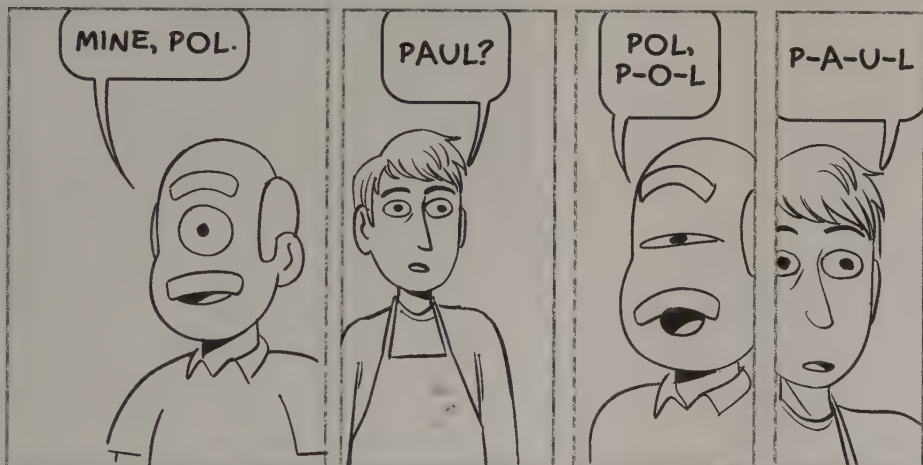
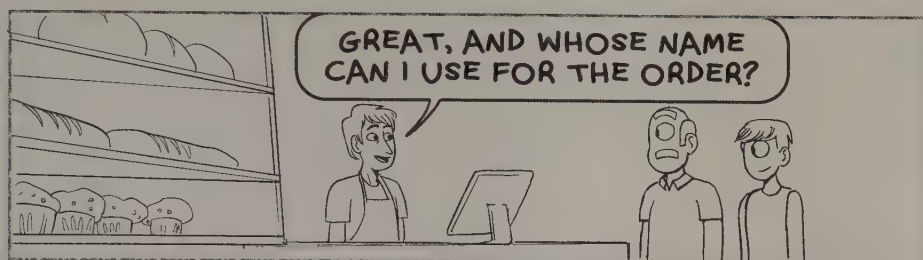








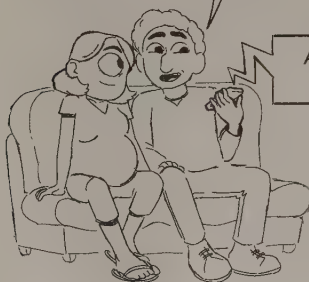
# Pol and Latea



# Unprepared

YEP, IT'S A BOY!

AND HOW ARE YOU  
DOING PARI?



I'VE BEEN A LITTLE  
EMOTIONAL LATELY...



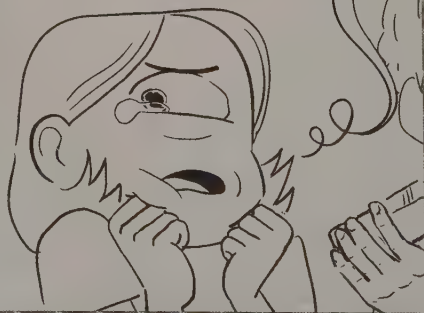
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE  
I'M GOING TO BE  
SOMEONE'S MOM...



I FEEL SO...  
UNPREPARED!



THE WORLD IS JUST  
SO COMPLICATED!



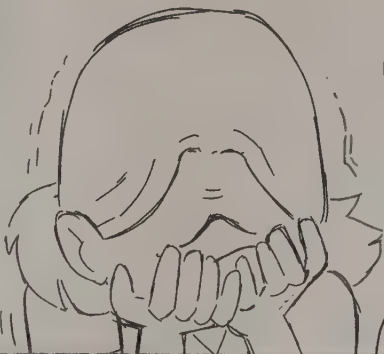
WHO AM I TO EDUCATE  
A TINY LIVING BEING...



INTO A FULLY-FLEDGED  
EMPATHETIC, ETHICAL  
ADULT?



WHAT IF HE ASKS  
QUESTIONS I CAN'T  
ANSWER?!



YAH, LIKE,  
"MOM CAN YOU TEACH  
ME HOW TO WINK?"





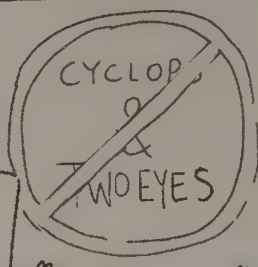


NOT IN

NOT NATURAL

DON'T  
MIX

ADAM & EVE  
NOT  
ADAM & ONE EYE



Un






## Top Searches

1. male cyclops two eyes man
2. female cyclops two eyes woman
3. xxx male cyclops two eyes  
clown costume orgy xxx
4. female cyclops two eye man
5. male cyclosp tow eyes man

Beautiful



I'M HAVING A  
GREAT TIME!

BUT...

...I WONDER WHAT  
STRANGERS THINK  
SEEING TWO CYCLOPES

IT'S HARD TELLING  
THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN

"WHAT A  
BEAUTIFUL COUPLE,  
I LOVE THEM!"



SINCE CYCLOPES HAVE  
THREE VAGINAS...



PREGNANCY IS PRETTY  
INTERESTING.



THERE'S A SECOND BABY  
IN EMBRYONIC DIAPAUSE  
IN MY SECOND WOMB...



WHEN THE FIRST BABY  
IS OUT, THE SECOND  
WILL START GROWING.



THE CUTE TERM IS  
WE'RE BABY-MAKING  
MACHINES!



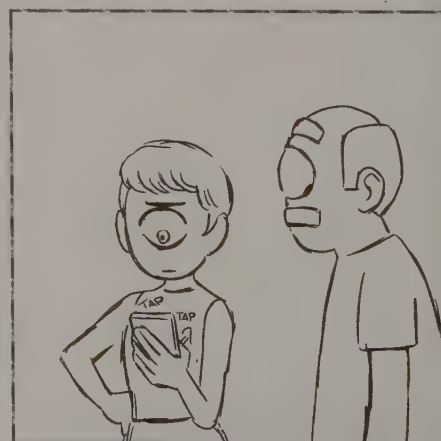
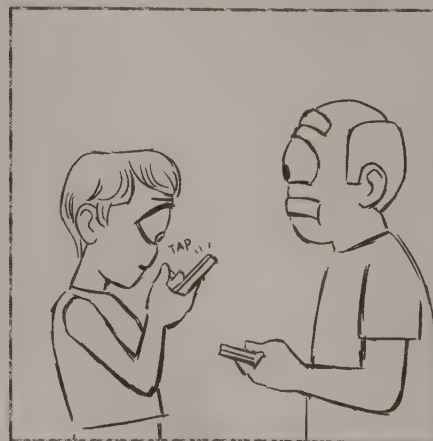
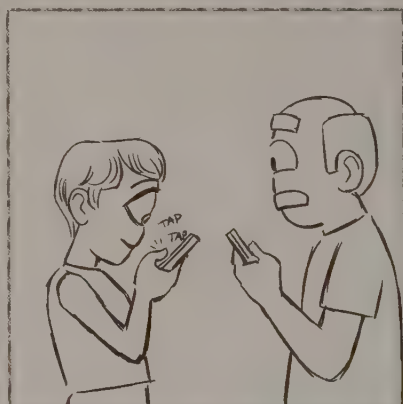
AND THE HATEFUL TERM  
IS WE'RE BABY-MAKING  
MACHINES.

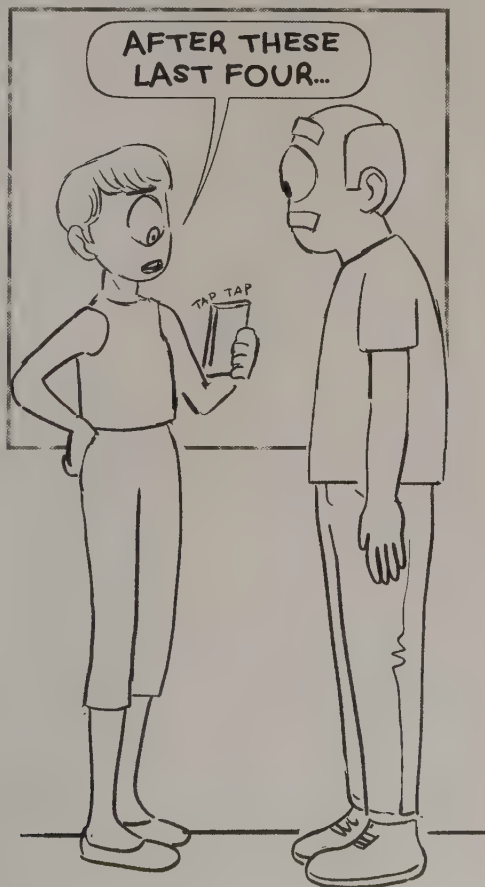
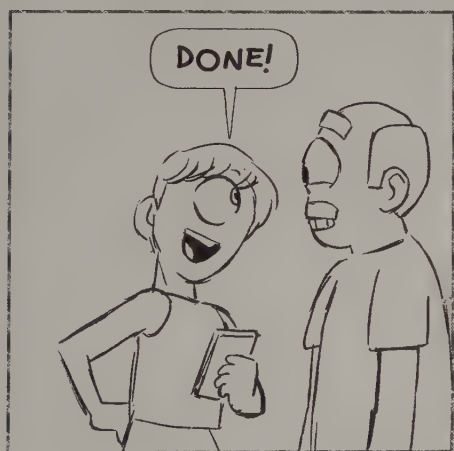
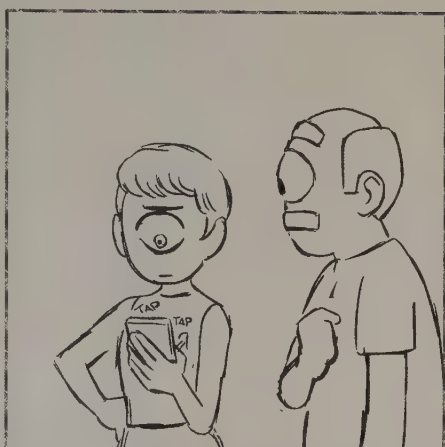
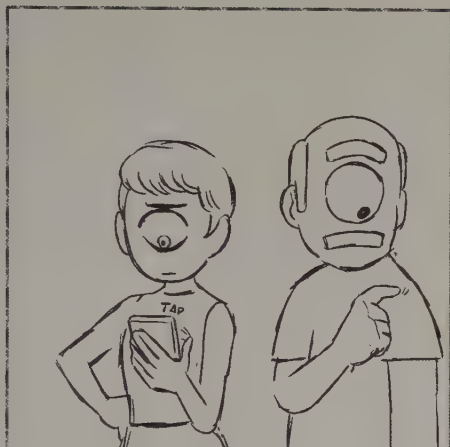




B A B Y S H O W E R

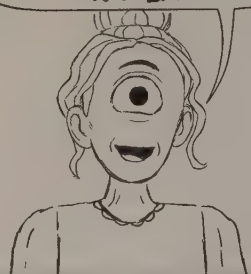






# Cyborg

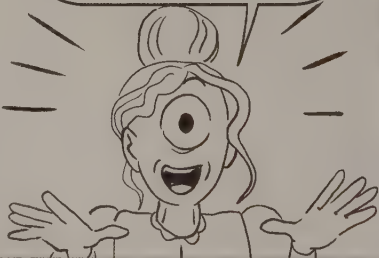
A LOT OF FOLKS  
THINK THERE'S NOT  
ENOUGH CYCLOPS  
REPRESENTATION  
IN FILM.



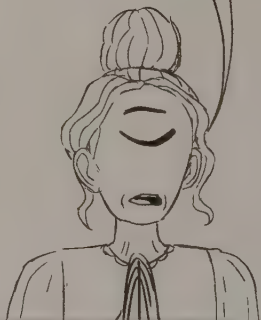
BUT I ALWAYS  
REMIND THEM OF THE  
1978 CLASSIC...



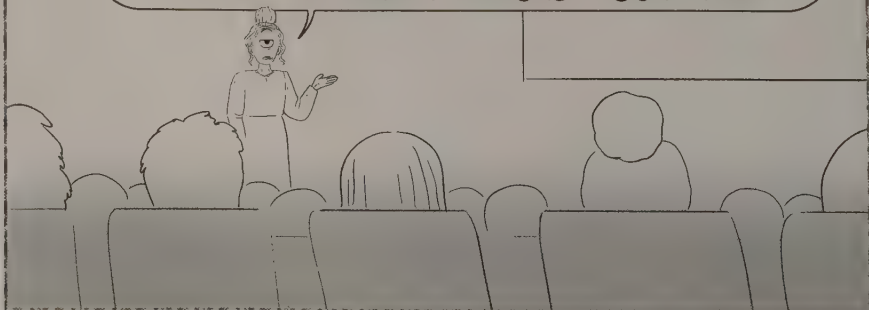
**"CYBORG"**  
THE FILM ABOUT  
CYBERNETIC CYCLOPES  
TAKING OVER TWO-EYES  
SOCIETY AND KILLING  
THEIR CULTURE.

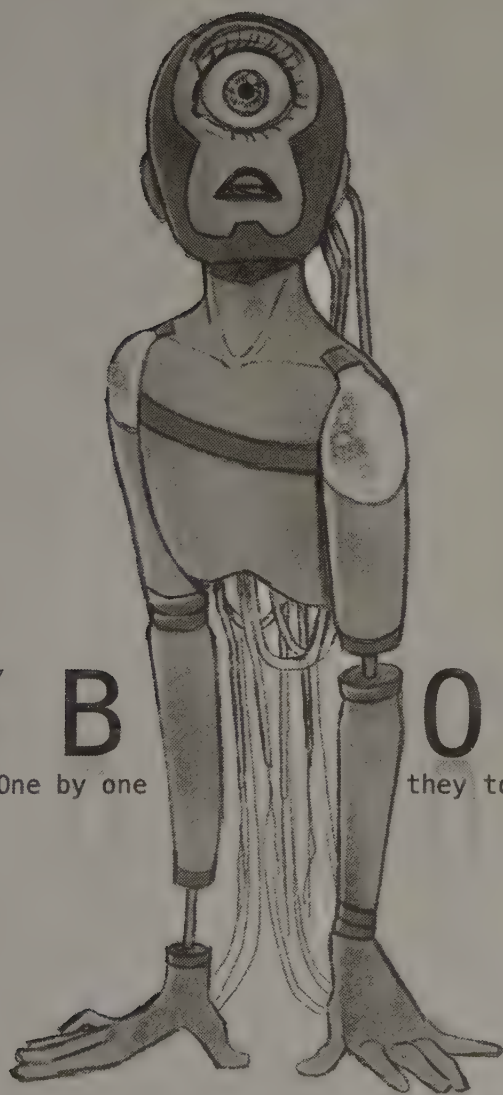


...BEFORE I AGREE  
WITH THEM.



NOW PLEASE ENJOY THIS SCREENING OF "CYBORG"  
AS PART OF THE FOUR-FILM CYCLOPS-ON-FILM SERIES,  
IN WHICH WE SCREEN "CYBORG" FOUR TIMES.





C Y B O R G

One by one

they took over



# Arj's memories

Personally, I feel the philosophy of "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts" is wrong.



I respectfully disagree.



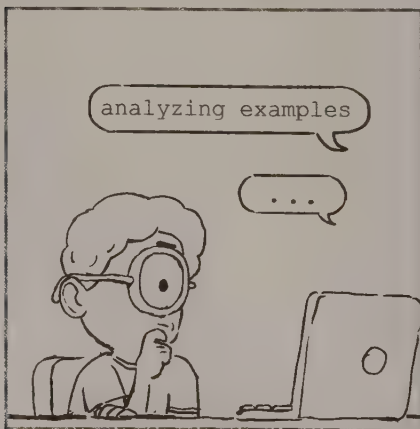
The notion is flawed, please see attached examples.



They clearly support my argument and also suggest the parts are greater than the whole!

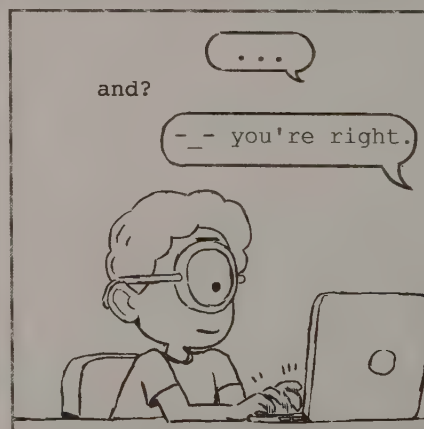


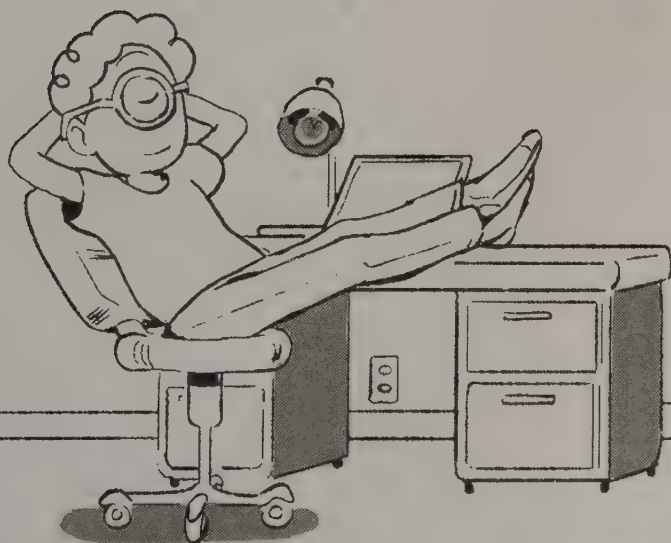
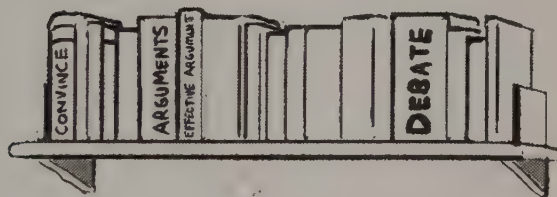
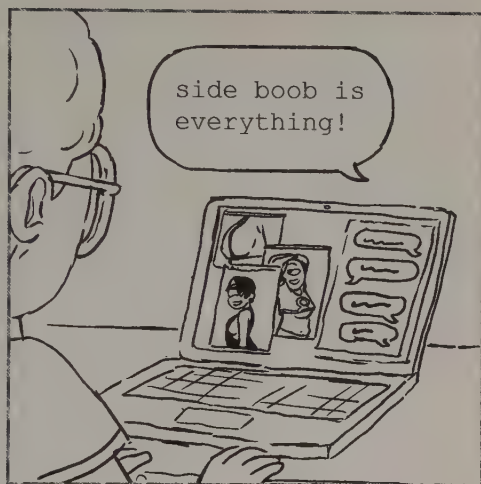
analyzing examples



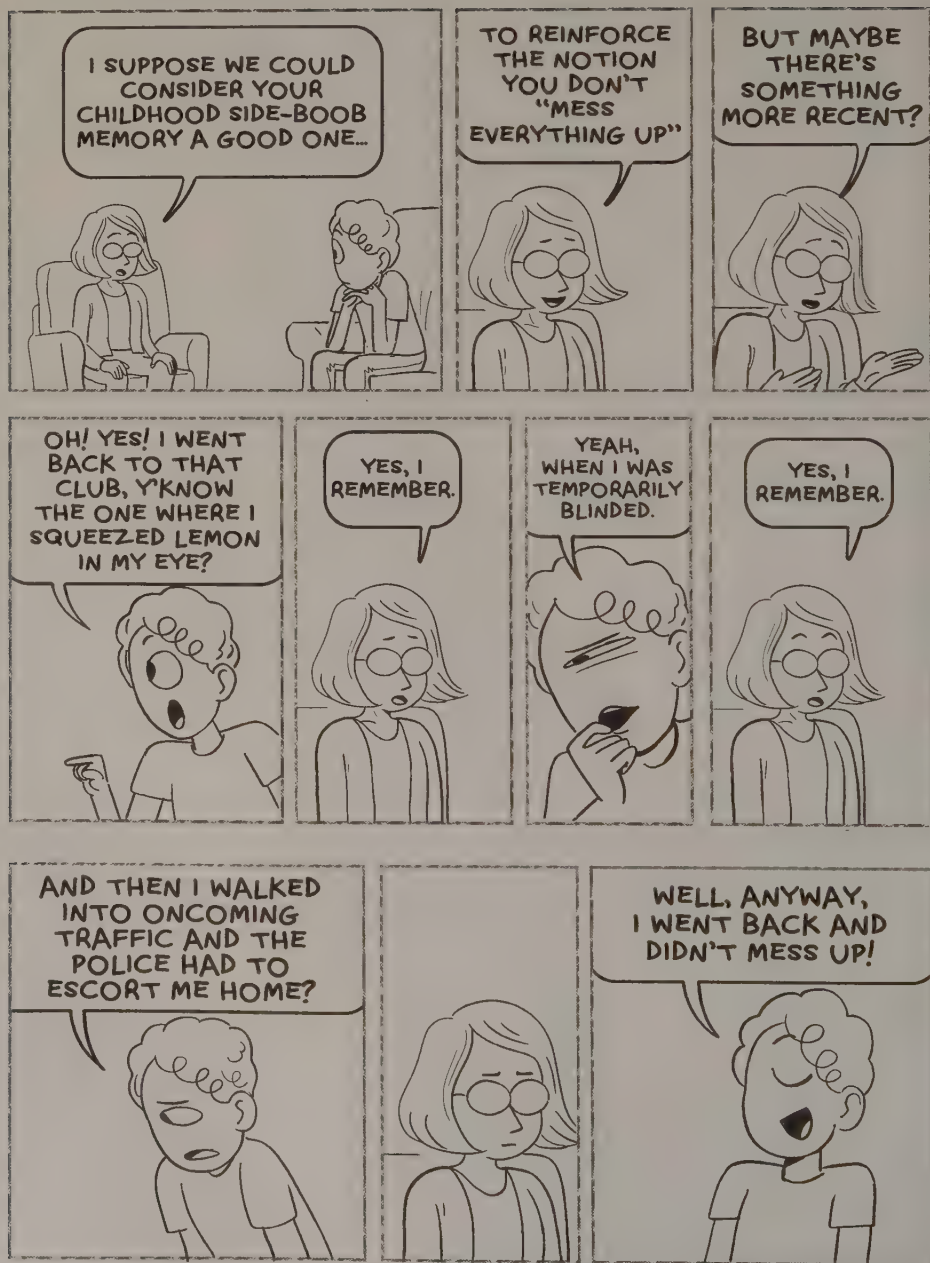
and?

-- you're right.





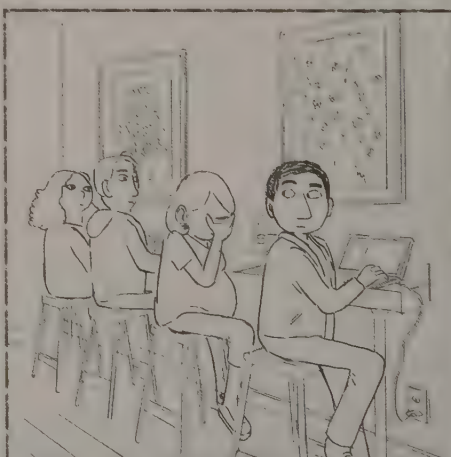
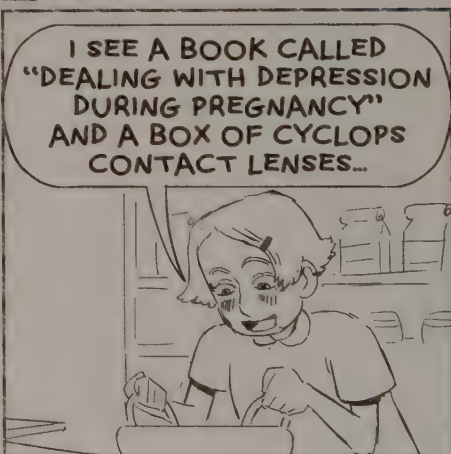
## Arj at therapy



Comic title pending...



## Tote-al mistake



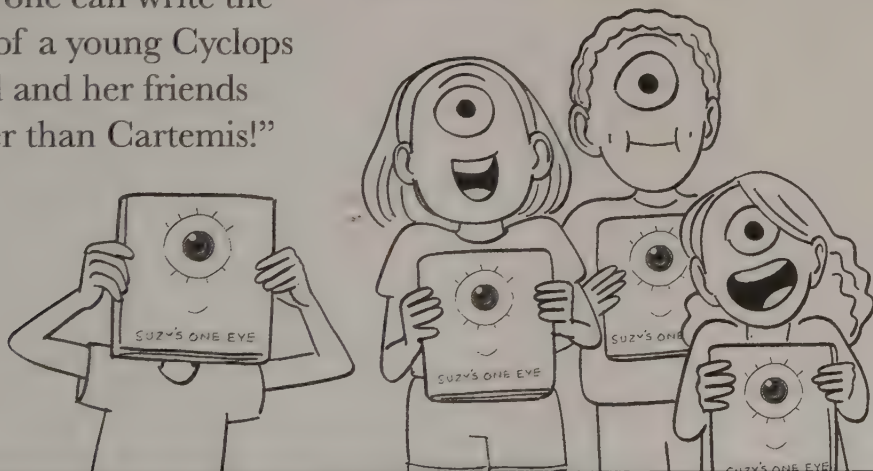
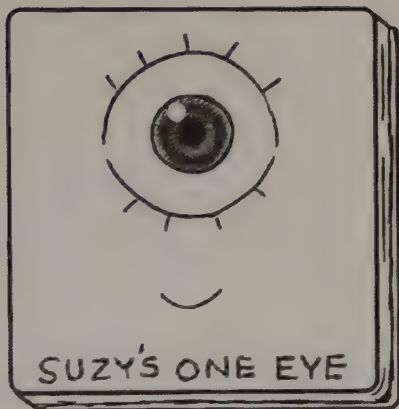


## This Week's Children's Pick!

"Cartemis is a visionary."

"No one else can capture the voice of a young Cyclops girl in a Two-Eyed space!"

"No one can write the story of a young Cyclops girl and her friends better than Cartemis!"



Dr. Leonard Cartemis /68 years old, pictured at his private ranch where he resides alone.

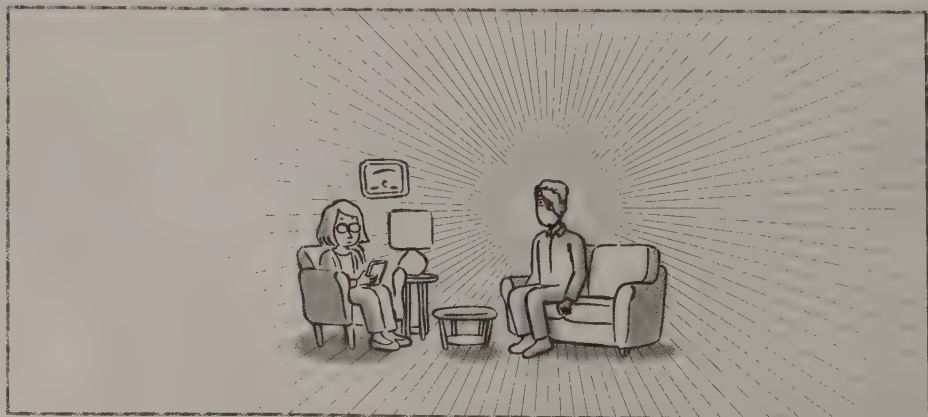
I JUST FEEL LIKE I'M  
STUCK BETWEEN TWO  
WORLDS AND DON'T  
BELONG TO EITHER.

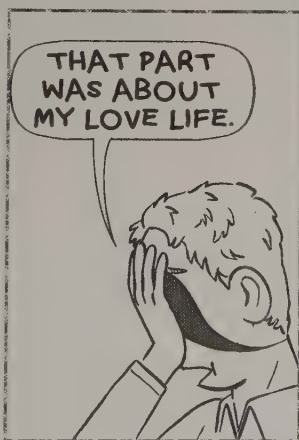
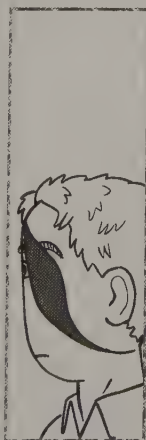
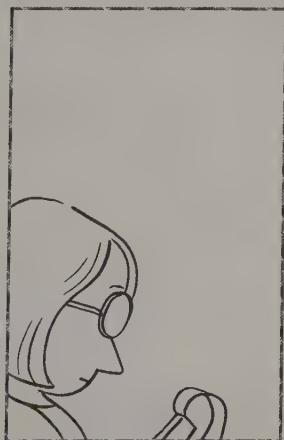
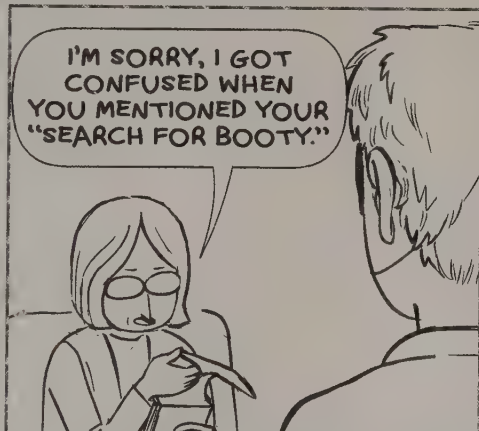


I DON'T KNOW WHAT MY  
IDENTITY IS ANYMORE.



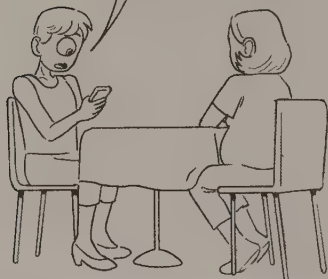
AND HOW LONG  
HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED  
AS A PIRATE?





# Texts

POL JUST  
TEXTED ME...



HE'S ASKING IF  
I WANT TO MEET  
HIS PARENTS.



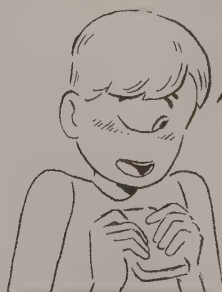
I WANT TO TELL HIM  
HOW HAPPY THAT  
WOULD MAKE ME...



AND JUST  
HOW HAPPY I AM  
IN GENERAL!



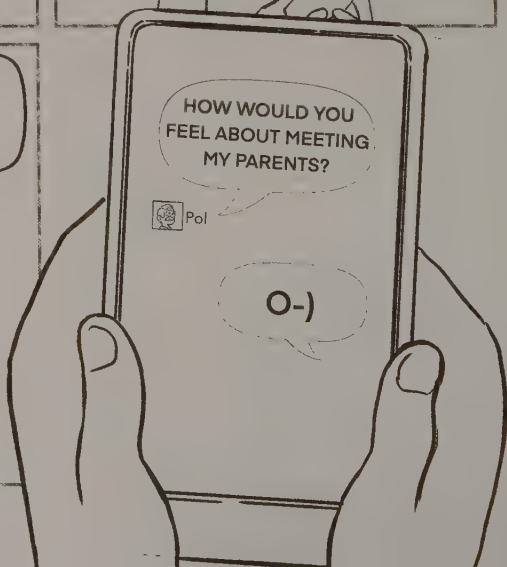
BUT...IT'S HARD  
TO EXPRESS THE  
NUANCES IN TEXT.



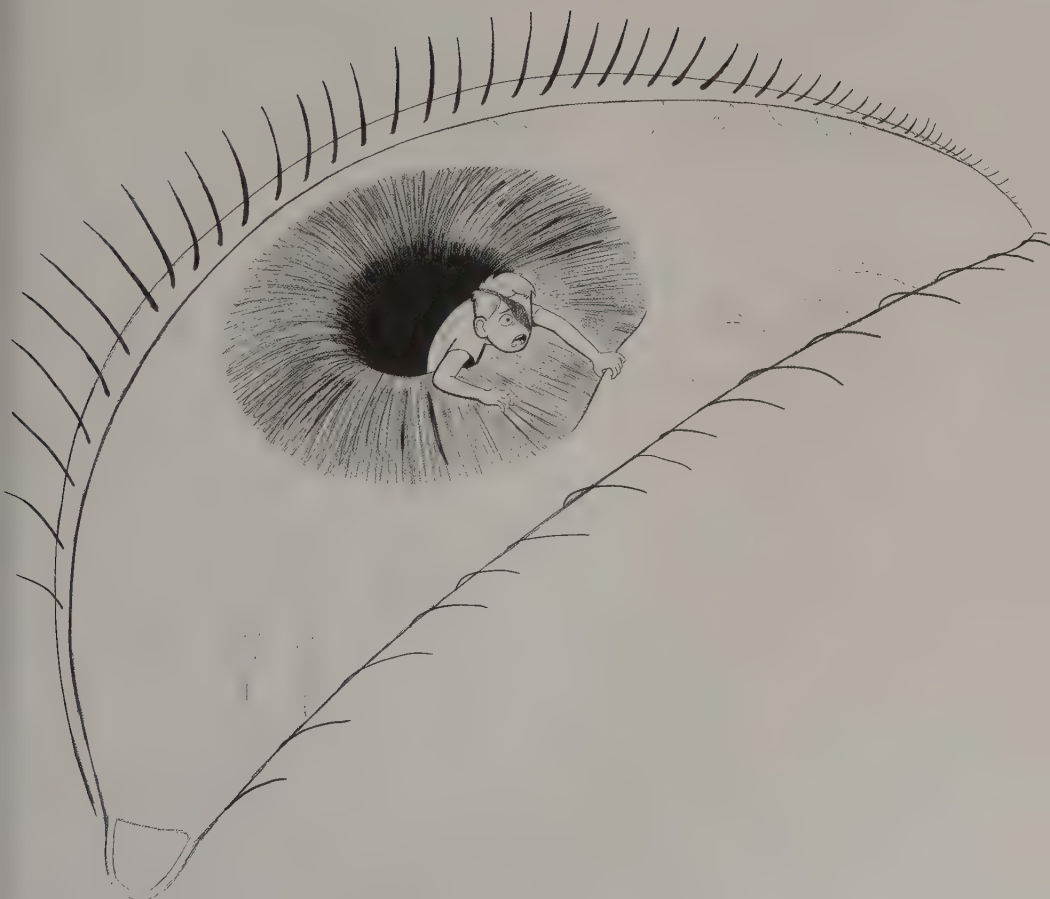
HOW WOULD YOU  
FEEL ABOUT MEETING  
MY PARENTS?



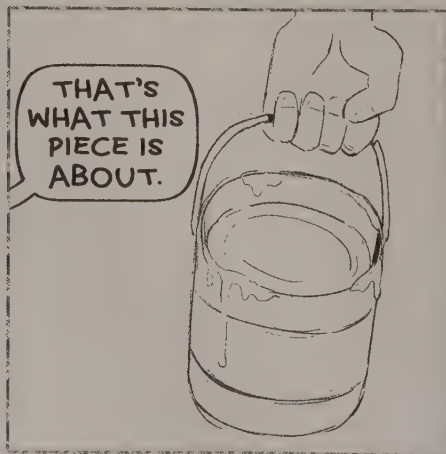
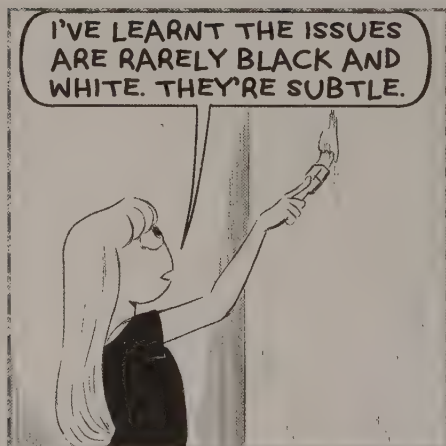
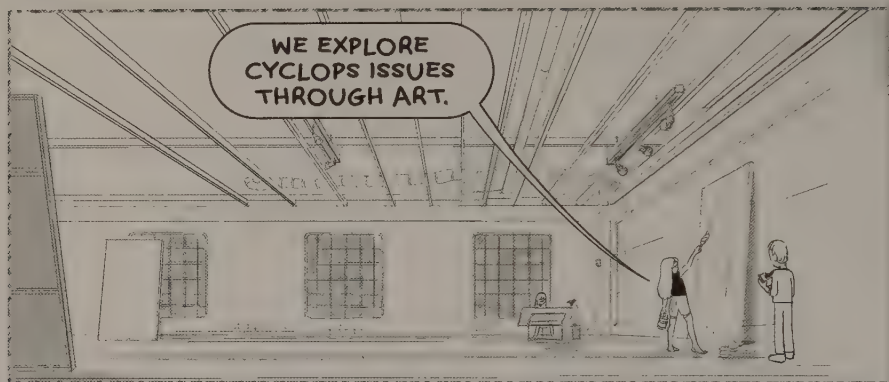
O-)

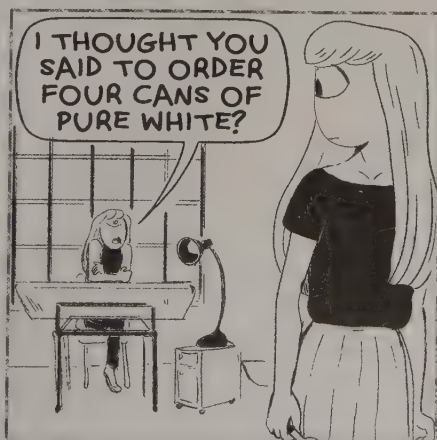
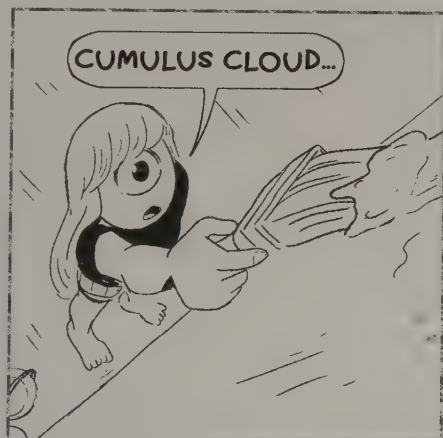


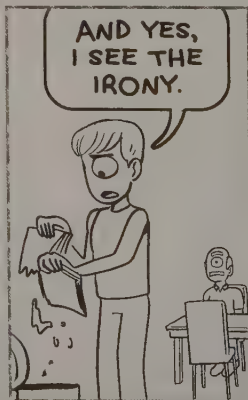
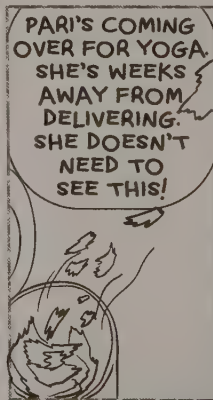
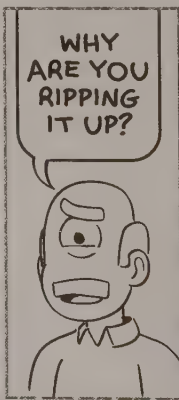
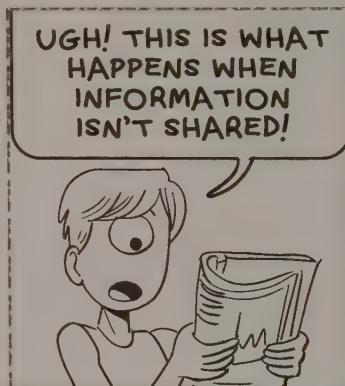
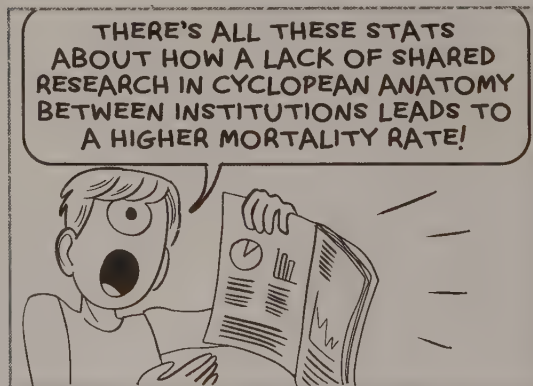
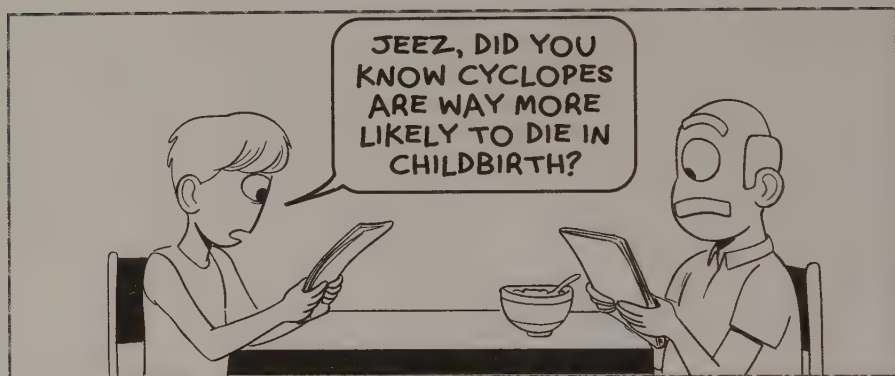
Bron's dream







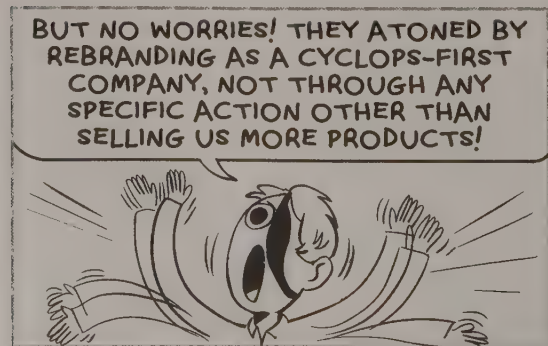
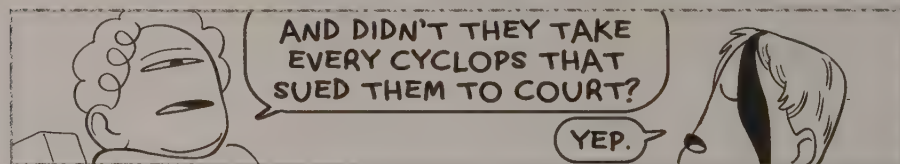
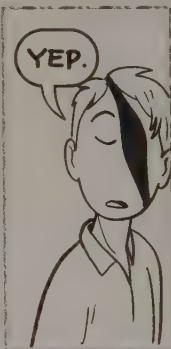
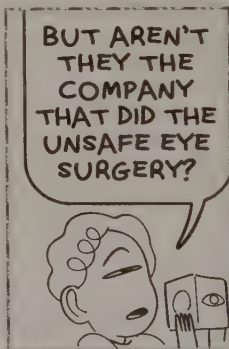
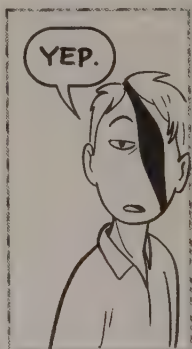
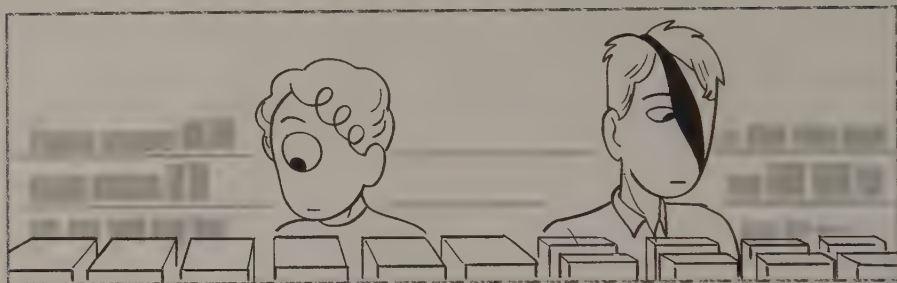




## Hold and release



# seeing clearly

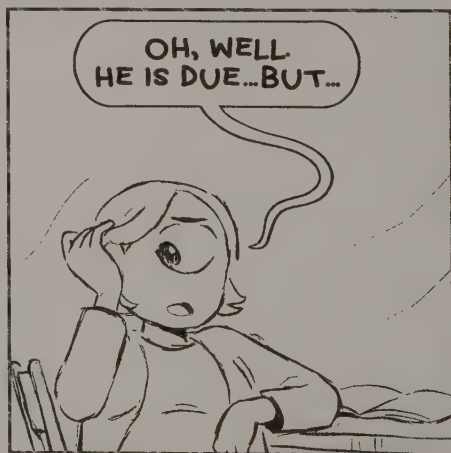
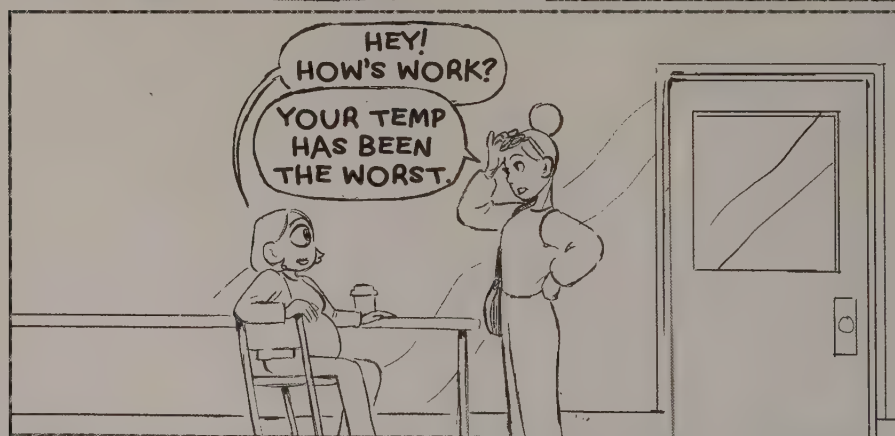




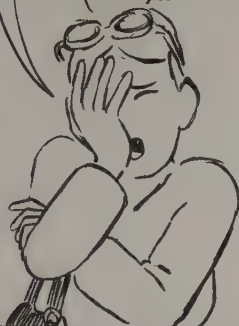
Bron's dream



# Back to work



OH SHOOT. I HAVE A  
HABIT OF SAYING  
THINGS I SHOULDN'T.



IGNORE ME.  
YOU DO YOU.



YOU KNOW, I WOULDN'T  
MIND SOME FREELANCE  
COPY EDITING...



I'M HAPPIEST WHEN  
I DO THE THINGS I LOVE  
INFREQUENTLY...



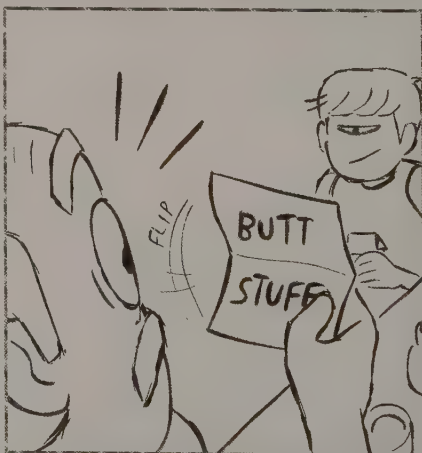
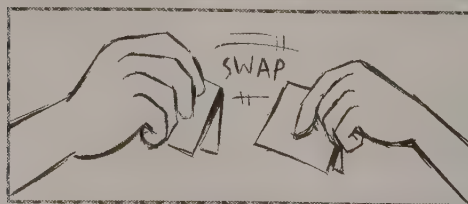
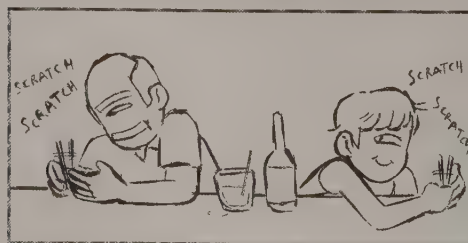
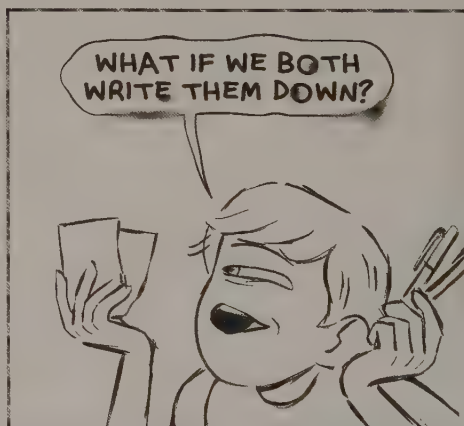
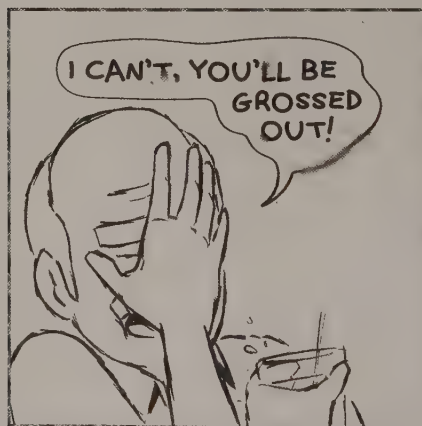
I FEEL LIKE  
I JUST LEARNT  
A LOT ABOUT  
YOUR SEX LIFE!



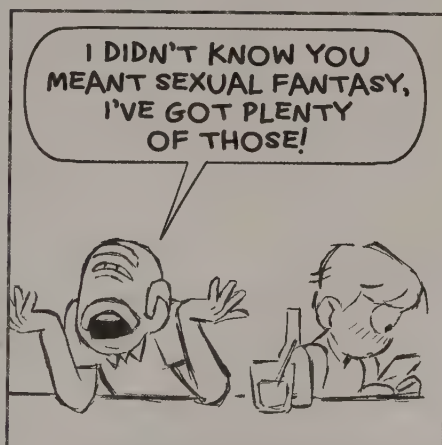
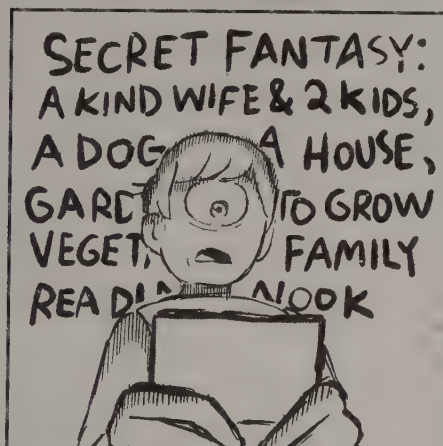
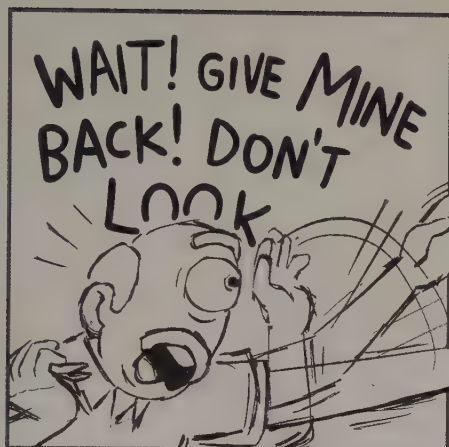
OH SHOOT.



# Embarrassing fantasies

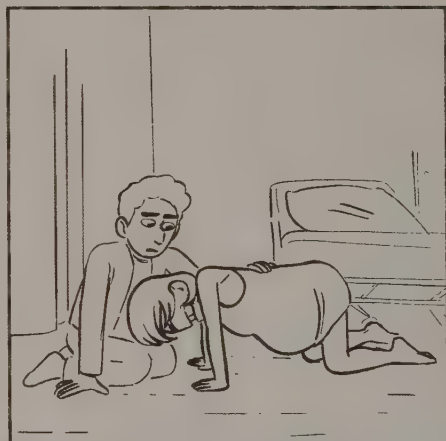








# Birthing center



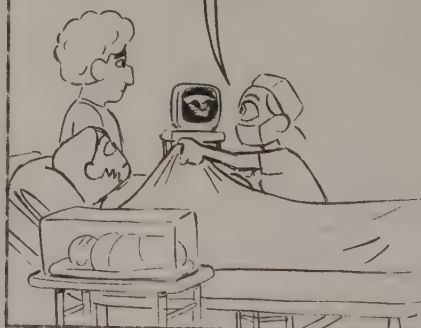


WOO!

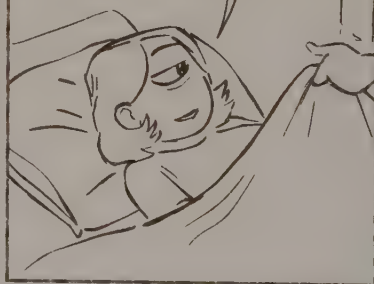
OKAY, LET'S CHECK  
ON THE NEXT BABY!



LOOKS LIKE BABY TWO  
HAS STARTED GROWING.



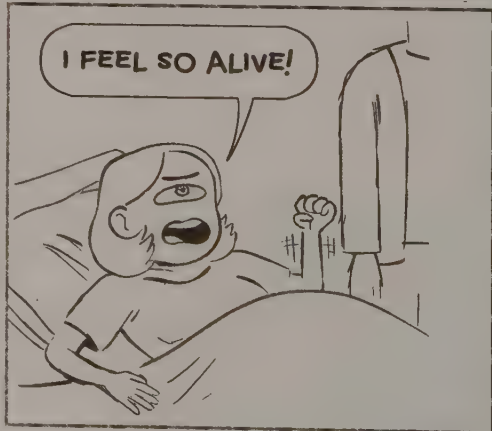
I'M KIND OF READY  
TO DO THIS WHOLE  
THING AGAIN.

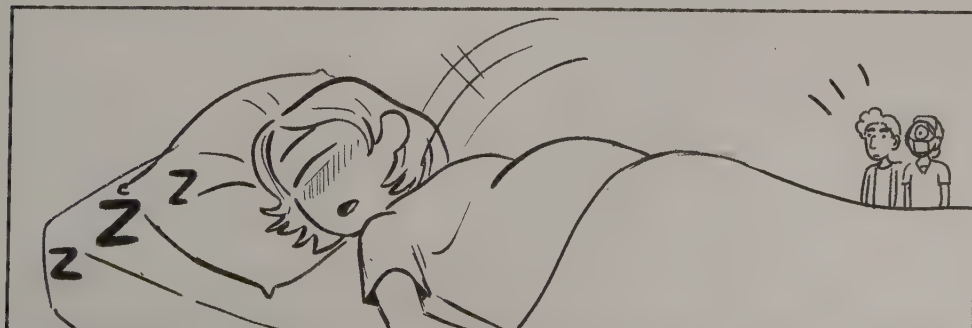
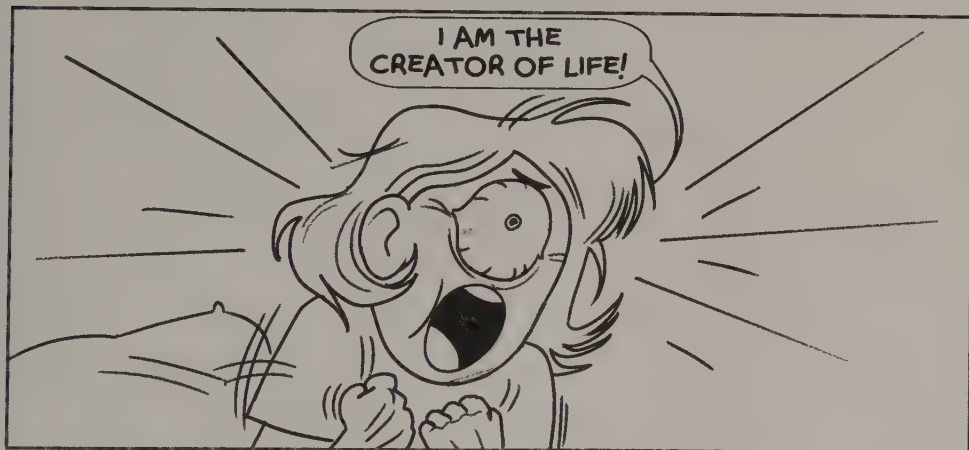


I KNOW THERE'S  
STILL A WHILE BUT...



I FEEL SO ALIVE!





say it without saying it

SO YOU'RE LOOKING  
TO GET A DOG?

ANIMAL  
RESCUE

IT'LL BE MY DOG,  
TECHNICALLY. THERE WAS  
ONE ON THE SITE I WAS  
INTERESTED IN MEETING.

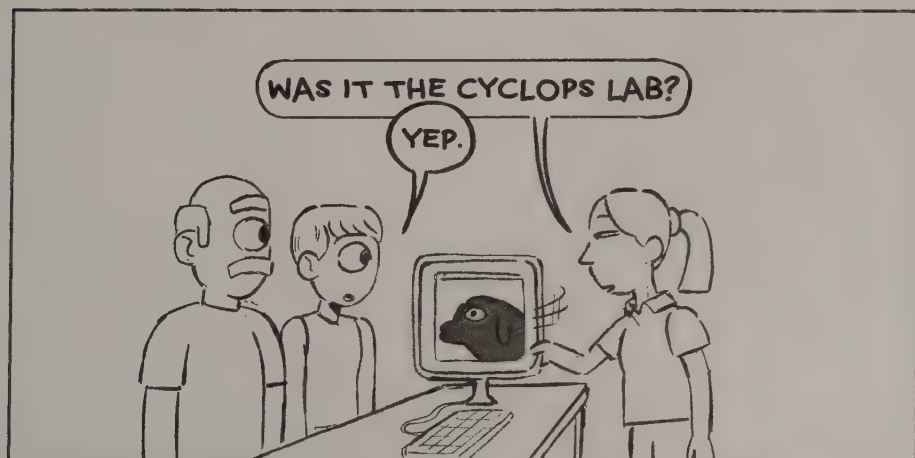
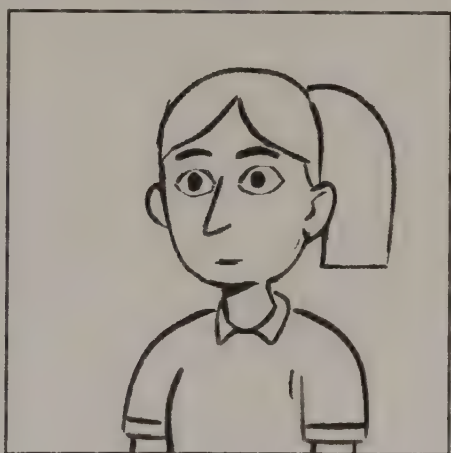
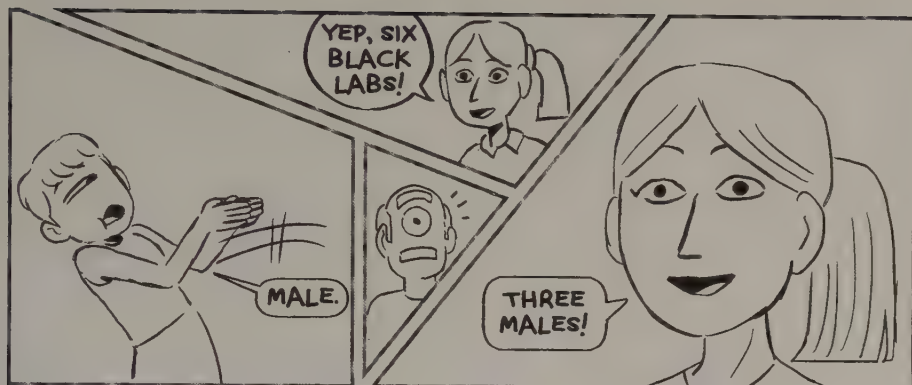
GREAT, DO YOU  
REMEMBER ITS NAME?

UM...IT WAS AN  
OLDER LABRADOR...

WE HAVE SIX LABS!

A BLACK LABRADOR.





# Bully dogs

OKAY PAL!  
GO AND MAKE  
SOME FRIENDS!

DOG  
PARK  
RULES



DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE  
OKAY?



OHMYGOD.  
THEY'RE IGNORING HIM  
BECAUSE HE'S DIFFERENT!



# Hidden messages

I HAVE A LOT OF PHOTO-FILTER APPS.



I LIKE PLAYING WITH  
ONE CALLED COLA TIME.



no filter

IT HAS A FILTER I USE  
TO SEE MYSELF AS A  
CYCLOPS AGAIN.



one eye (and cola)

OR I CAN SEE WHAT I'D  
LOOK LIKE IF THE  
SURGERY HAD WORKED...



two eyes (and cola)

THERE'S EVEN A SLIDER  
THAT DISTORTS YOUR  
FACE INTO A SMILE.



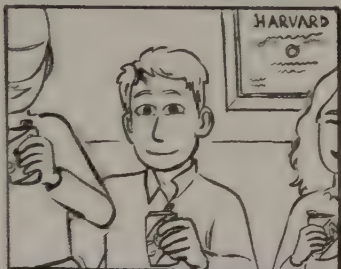
cola + happy

THIS ONE CONVERTS A  
PHOTO IN THE BACK  
INTO A DEGREE...



colas + self assurance

YOU CAN EVEN ADD  
WEIRD HALF-PEOPLE...

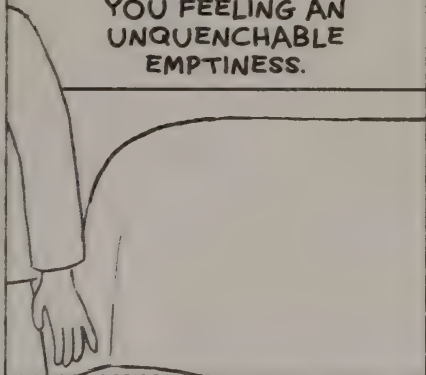


self assurance colas + sense of belonging

EVENTUALLY I WONDER  
WHAT'S THE POINT?

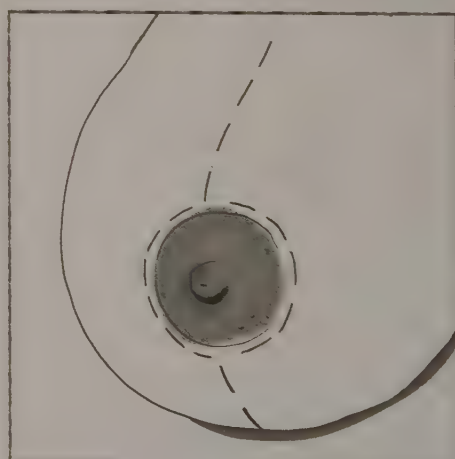
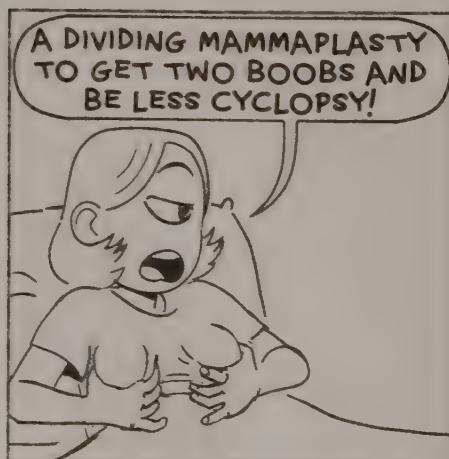
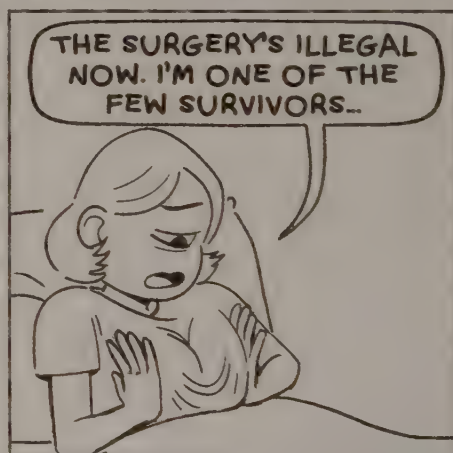


IT JUST LEAVES  
YOU FEELING AN  
UNQUENCHABLE  
EMPTINESS.





## Pari at the hospital





IT WAS ALL THE  
RAGE BACK THEN.

IT WAS A POPULAR  
SURGERY?

NO, I MEAN IT WAS ALL THE  
RAGE AT MY CYCLOPS BODY  
AND SELF-HATRED THAT  
MADE ME DO IT.

I GUESS I CAN BRING  
WINE TO HER PARTY.



BUT I DON'T KNOW  
ANYTHING ABOUT WINE...



WHOA!



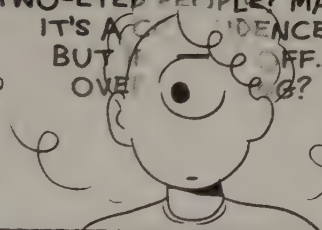
I'M THE ONLY CYCLOPS IN  
THIS WAITING ROOM.



DOES THIS ACCOUNTANT  
MOSTLY SEE TWO-EYES?



WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT  
ME? MAYBE I SHOULD  
RECOMMEND MORE  
CYCLOPS FRIENDS HERE,  
OR MAYBE THIS  
NEIGHBORHOOD HAS MORE  
TWO-EYED PEOPLE? MAYBE  
IT'S A COINCIDENCE?  
BUT... OFF...  
OVER...?



THANKS, DON!

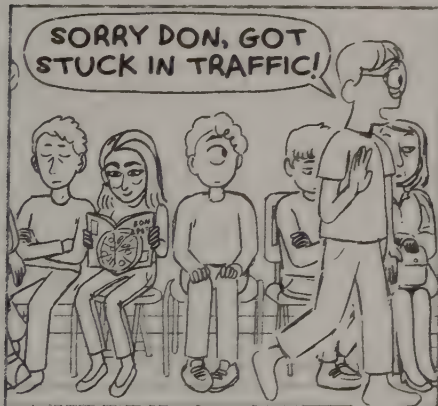


AFTER  
YOU!

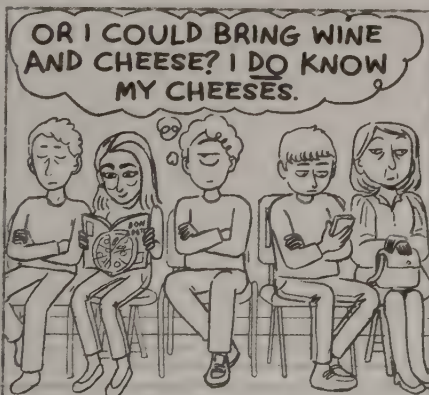
THANKS!



SORRY DON, GOT  
STUCK IN TRAFFIC!

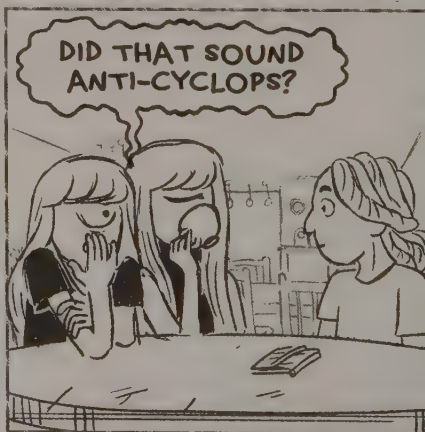
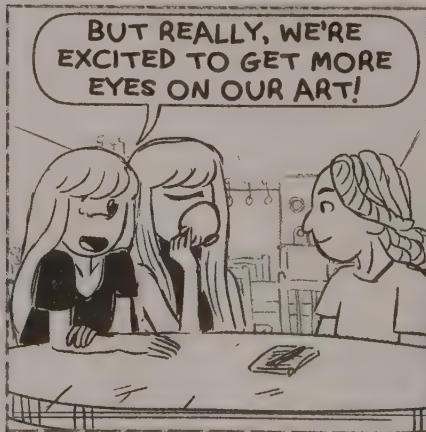
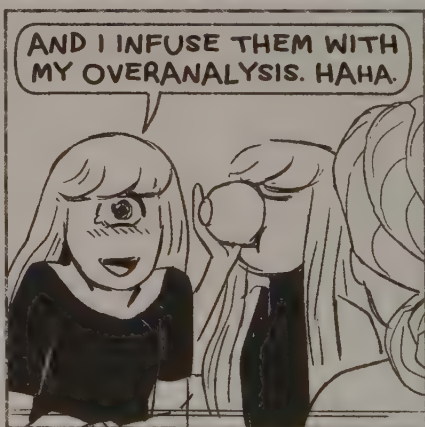


OR I COULD BRING WINE  
AND CHEESE? I DO KNOW  
MY CHEESES.



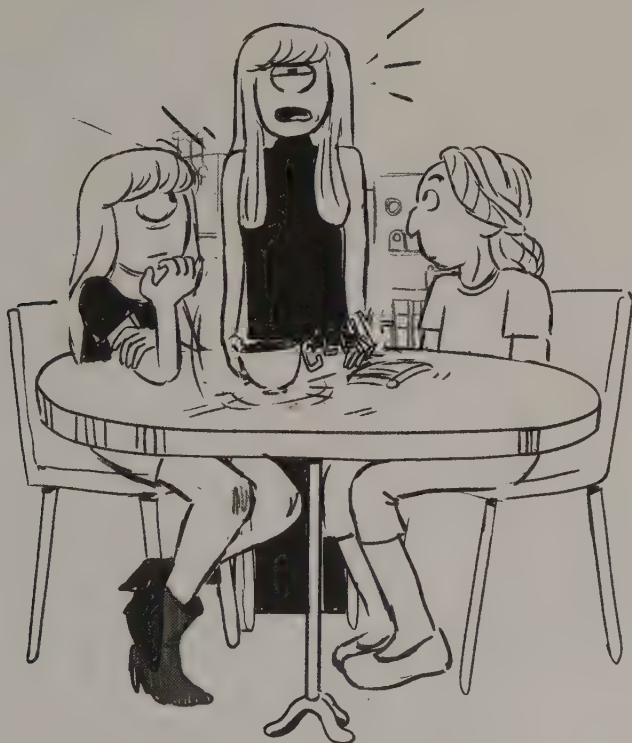


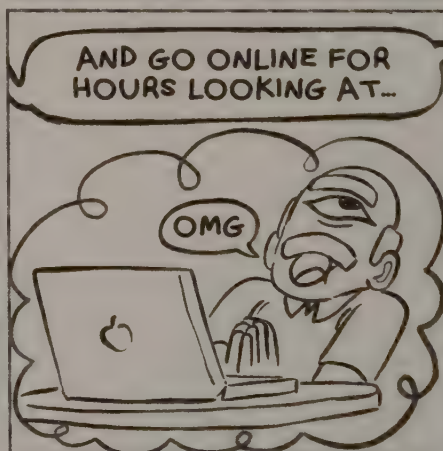
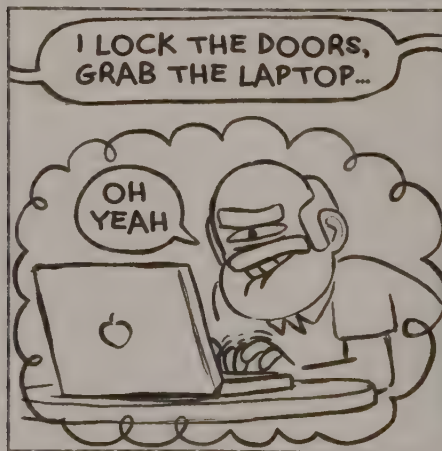
# Anti-Cyclops



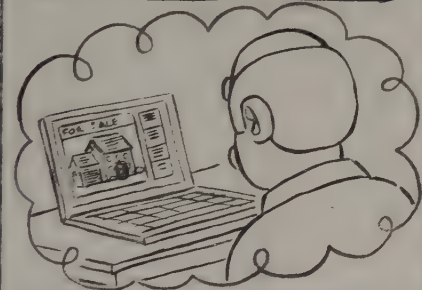


IT IS THE ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE THAT IS  
ANTI-CYCLOPS!





REAL ESTATE AND  
IMAGINING OUR LIFE IN A  
HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS...



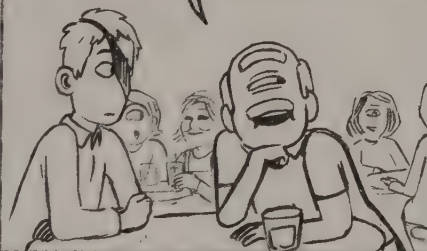
EATING OATMEAL IN  
OUR BREAKFAST NOOK...  
A GARDEN FOR THE DOG  
AND...READING BOOKS BY  
OUR ORIGINAL FIREPLACE  
WITH OUR...KIDS...



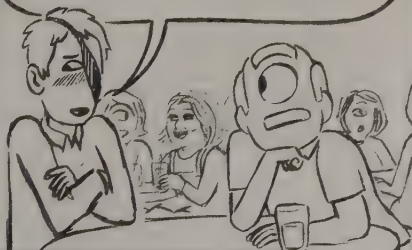
OH C'MON!  
IT'S NOT THAT  
WEIRD, IS IT?



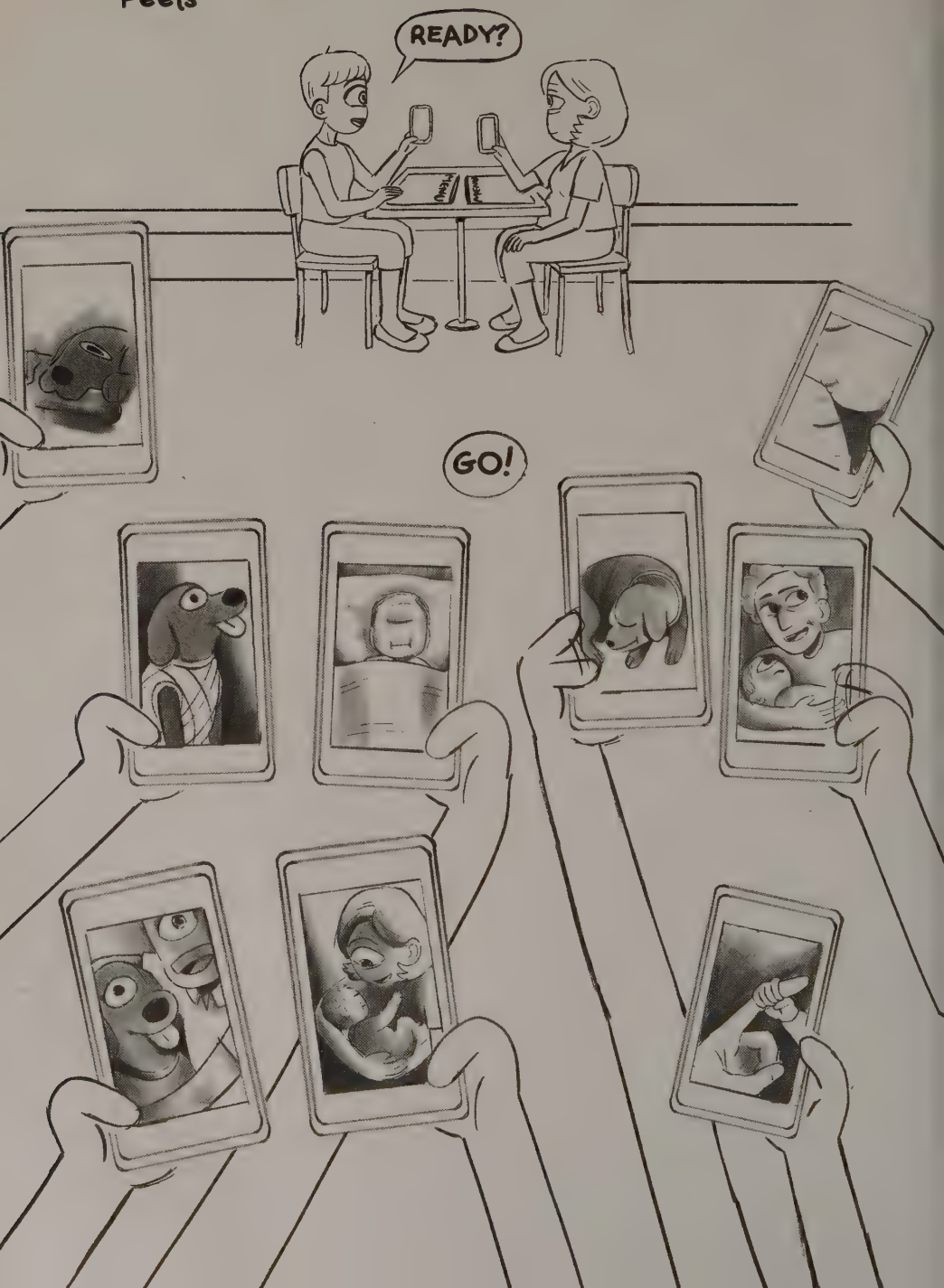
ACTUALLY, I LOOKED  
AT A HOUSE AROUND  
THE CORNER FROM  
HERE...



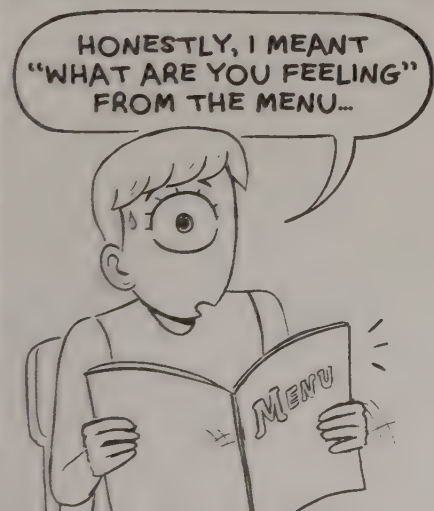
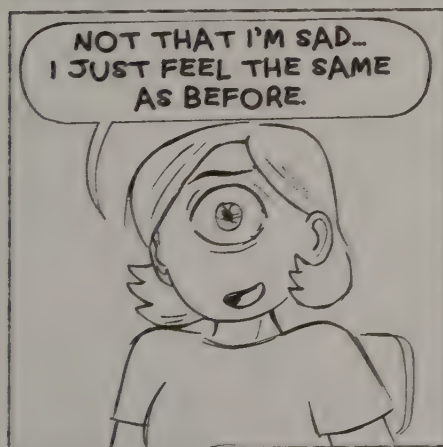
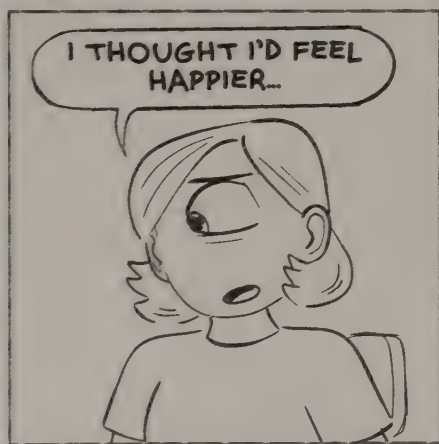
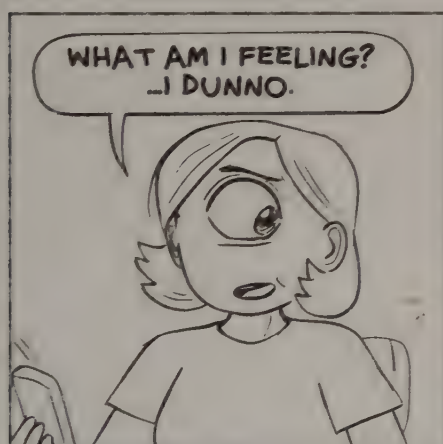
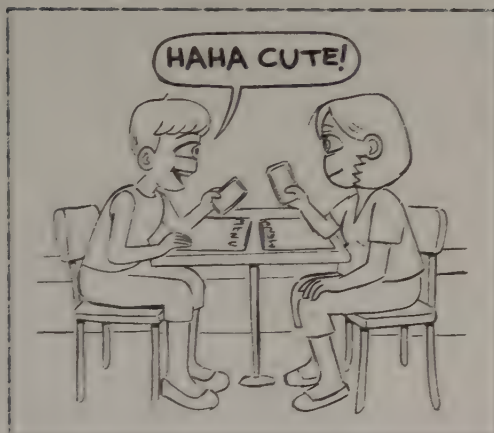
THE ONE WITH THREE  
ROOMS FOR ME AND MY  
IMAGINARY FAMILY? NAH  
IT'S OFF THE MARKET.  
I CHECKED YESTERDAY.



Feels

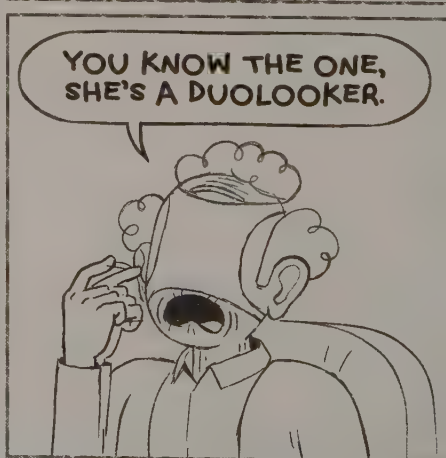








# Arj's grandpa



GRANDPA, WE DON'T SAY  
THAT ANYMORE. NOW WE  
SAY "TWO-EYES."



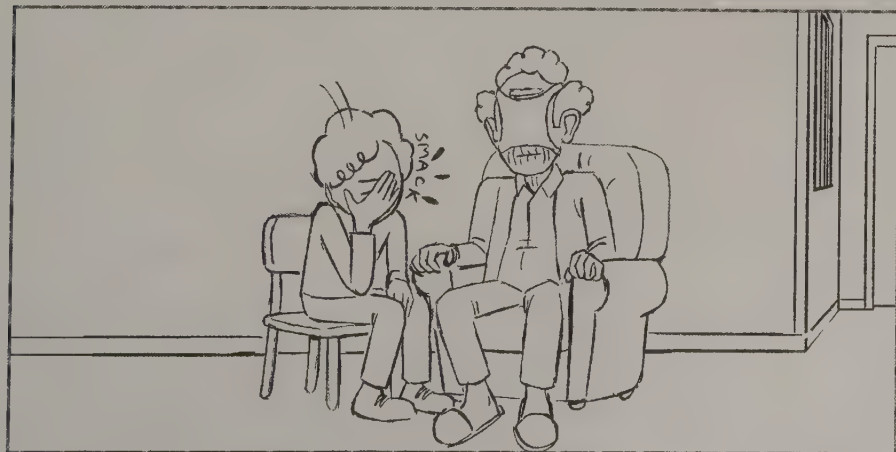
OKAY, OKAY. WELL,  
I CAN TAKE THE PATCH  
OFF IN A COUPLE DAYS!

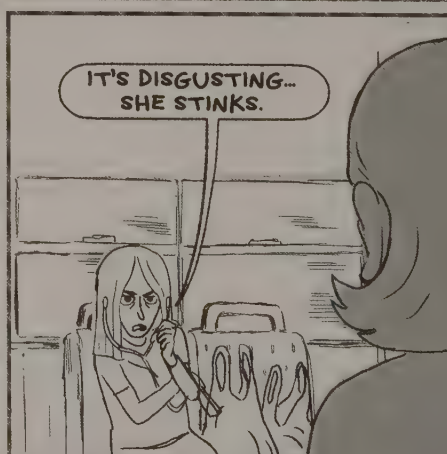


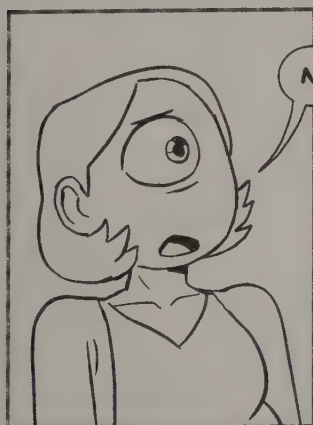
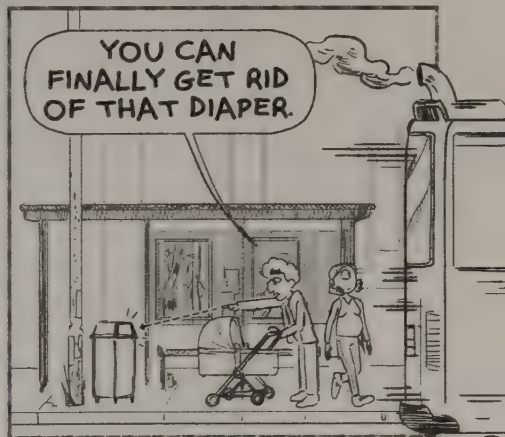
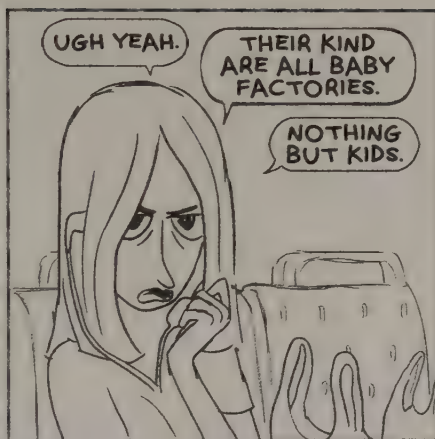
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID,  
THAT "TWO-EYES" NURSE.



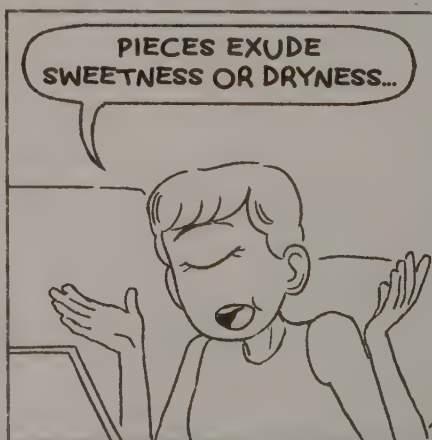
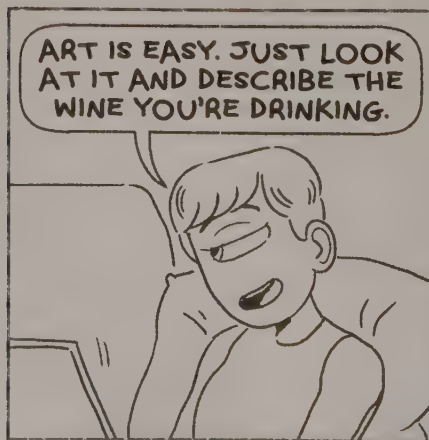
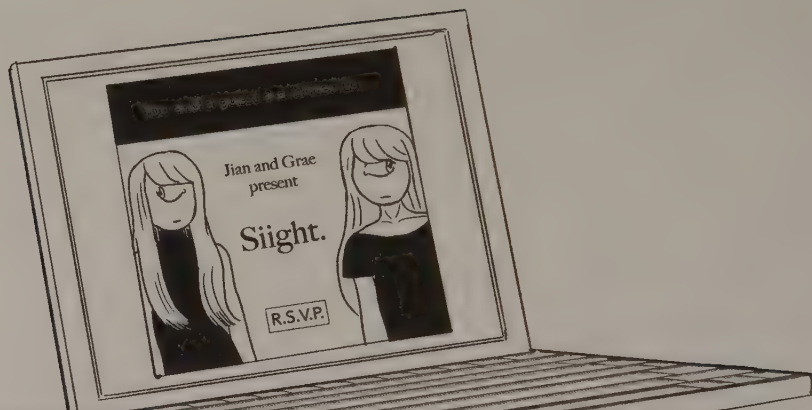
THE ORIENTAL ONE.



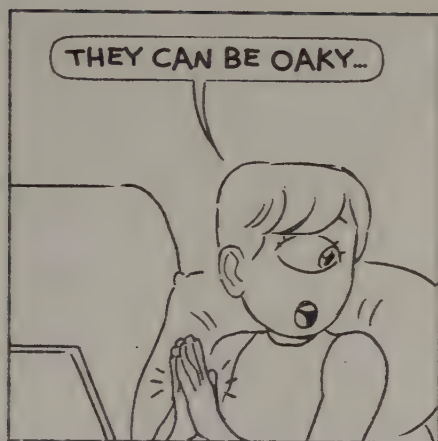


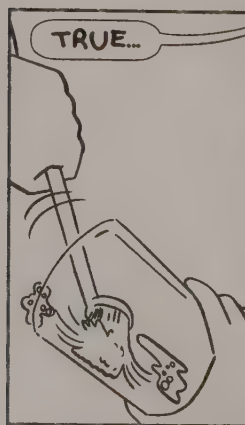


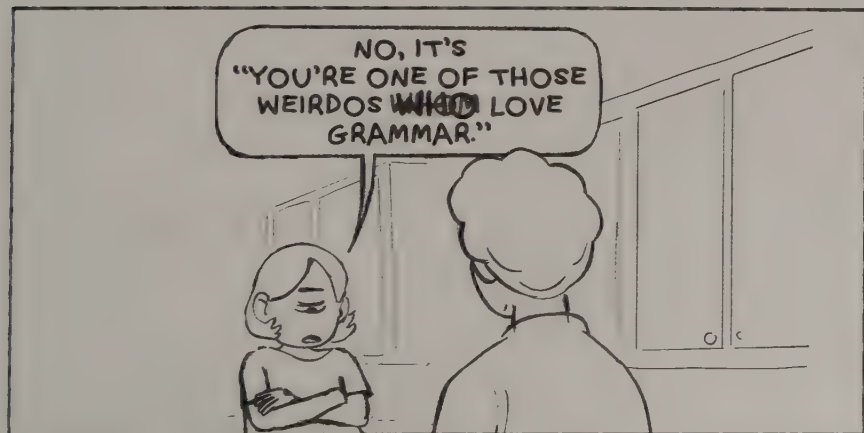
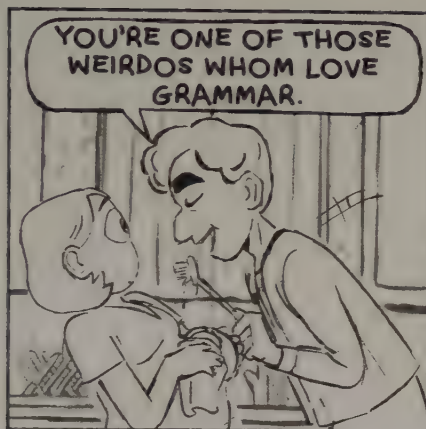




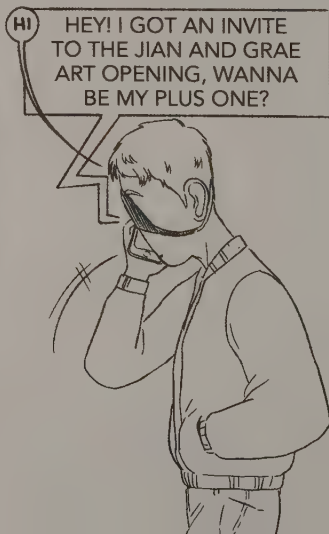
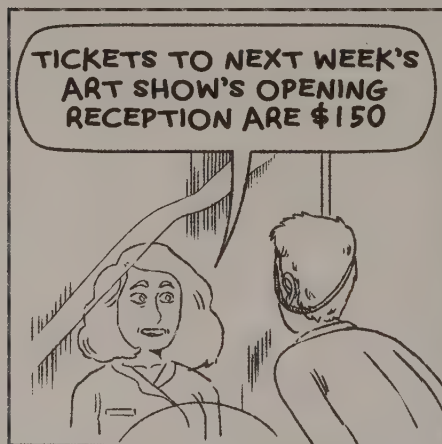
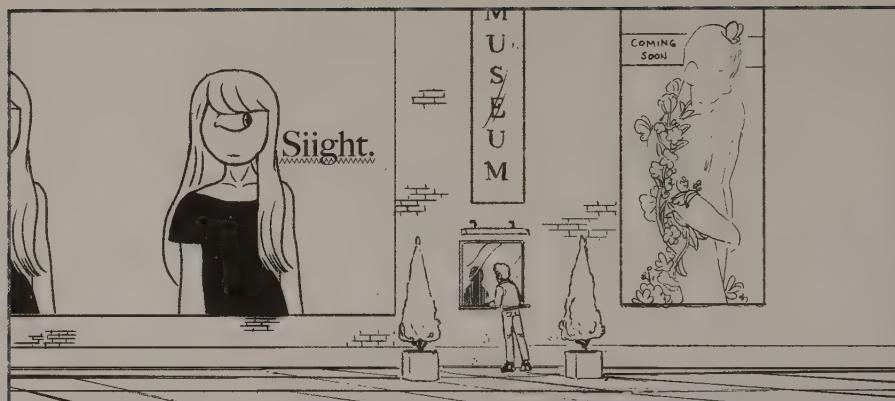


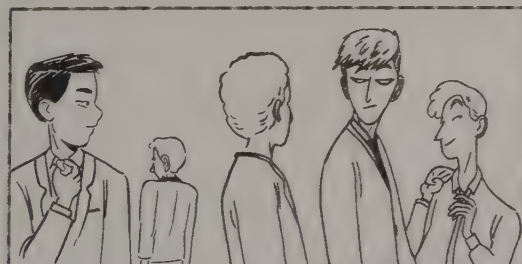
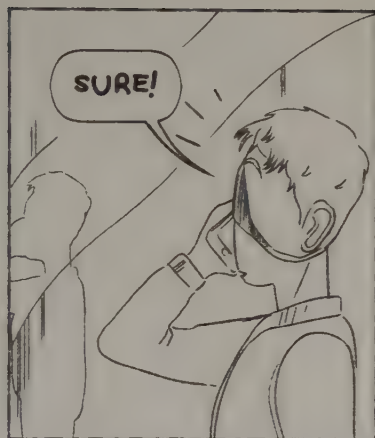




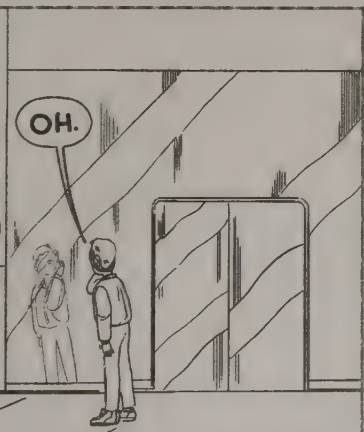


# The elite



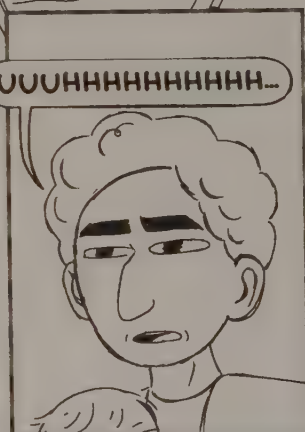


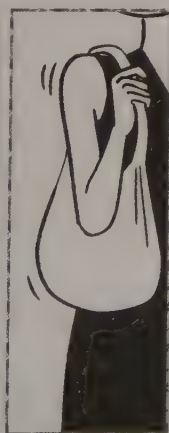
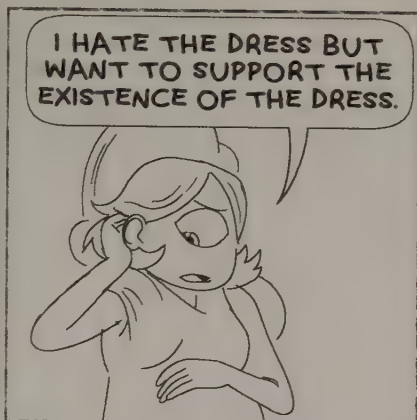
RENTALS  
STARTING AT  
\$150



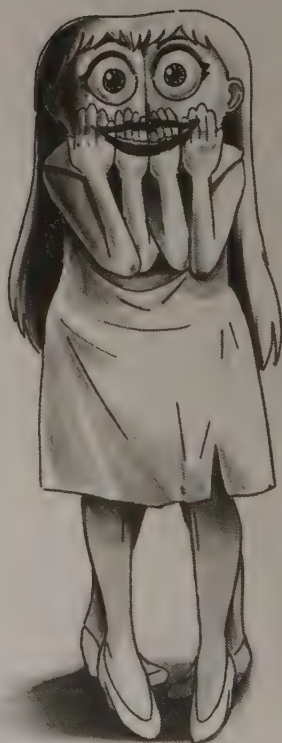


Getting ready  
for the gallery



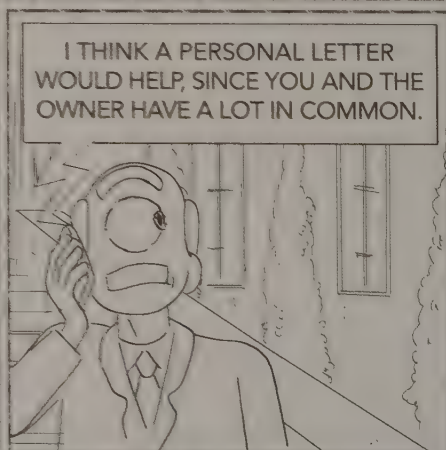


Siight.  
~~~~~

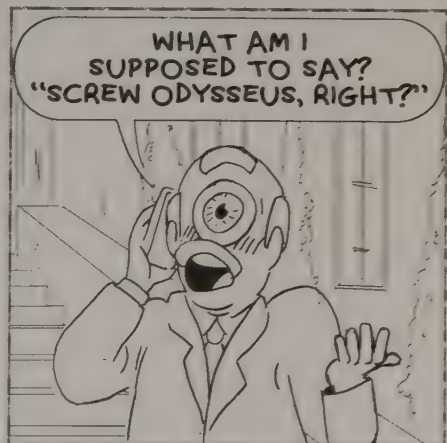
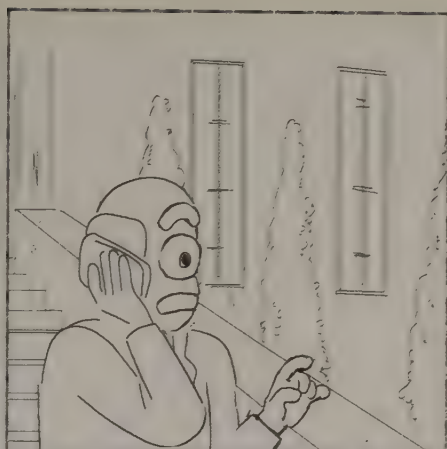




7:15pm Pol's  
secret bid







7:30pm Dig deep

Siight

THANK YOU  
EVERYONE FOR  
JOINING ME IN  
EXPERIENCING  
SIIGHT!  
SADLY, GRÆ IS  
NOT ABLE TO BE  
HERE TONIGHT.



YES?

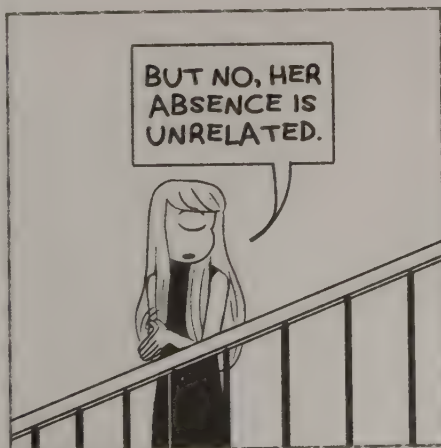
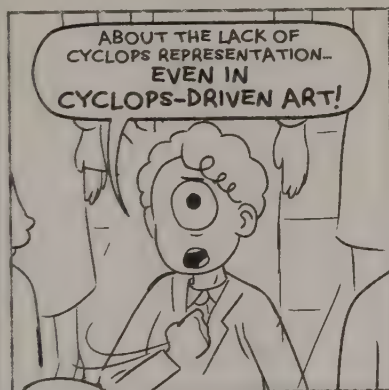
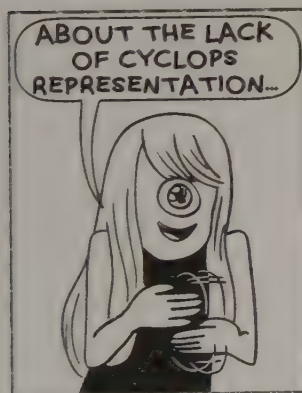
IS HER ABSENCE...  
PART OF THE SHOW?



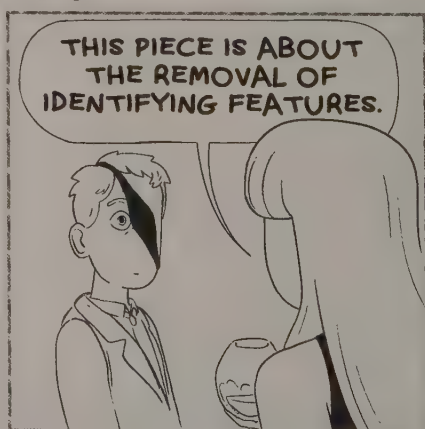
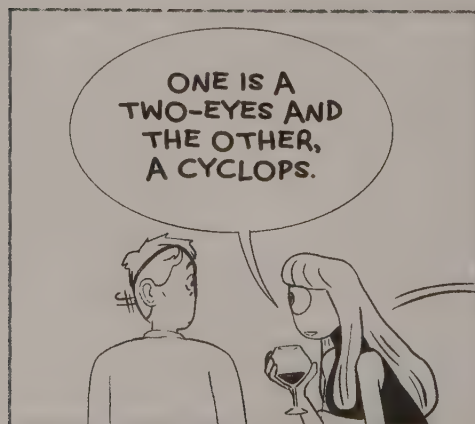
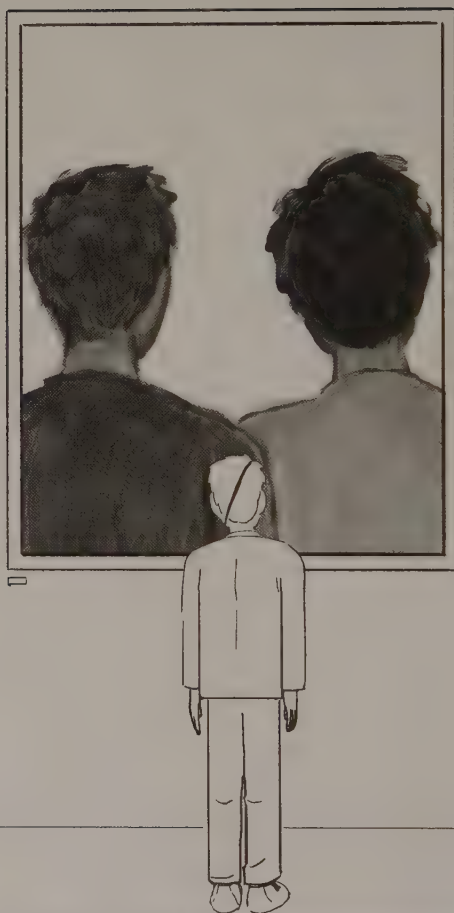
WHAT EVER COULD  
YOU MEAN?

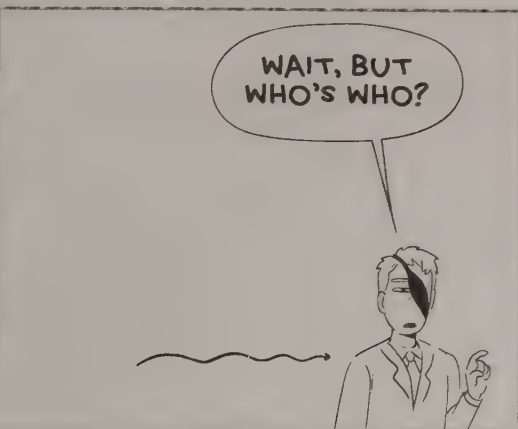
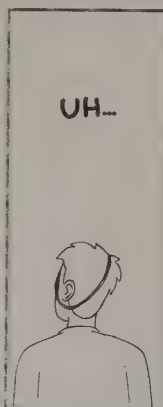
UH...LIKE IS IT A  
STATEMENT ABOUT...  
ABOUT...





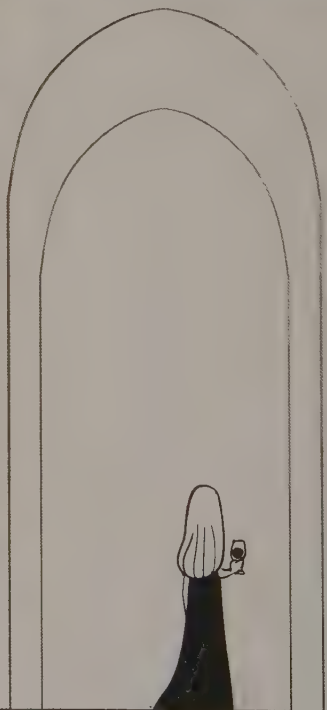
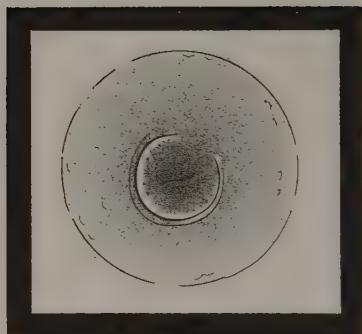
7:55pm Bron

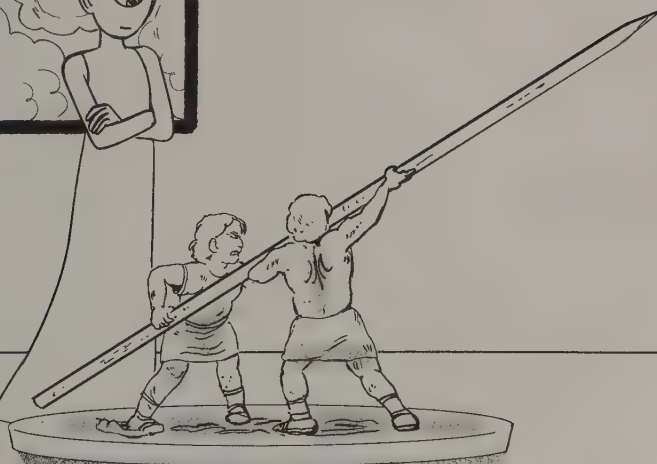
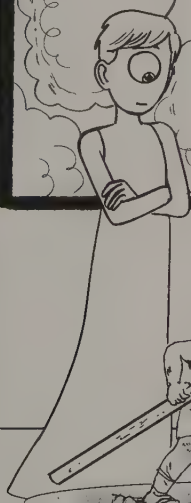






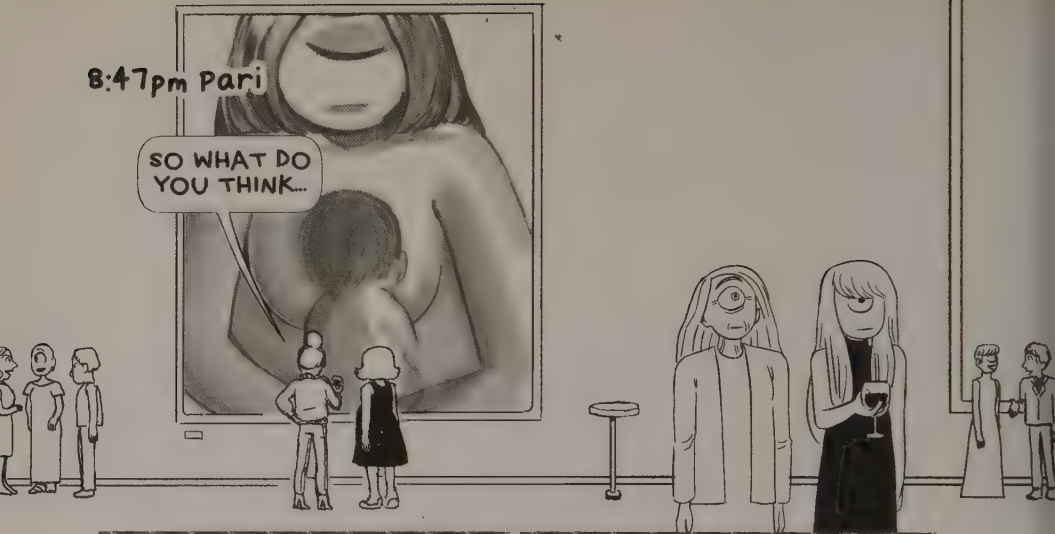
8:00pm





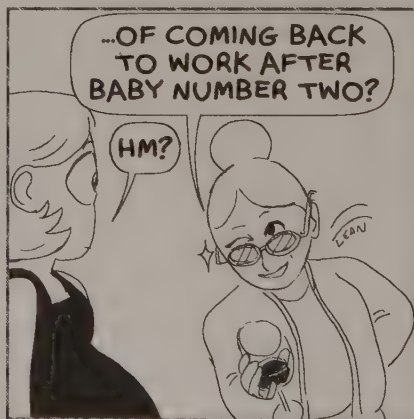
8:47pm Pari

SO WHAT DO  
YOU THINK...



...OF COMING BACK  
TO WORK AFTER  
BABY NUMBER TWO?

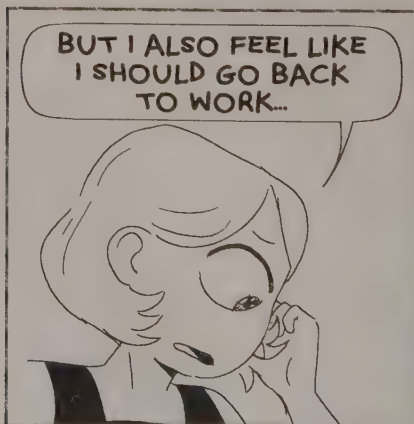
HM?



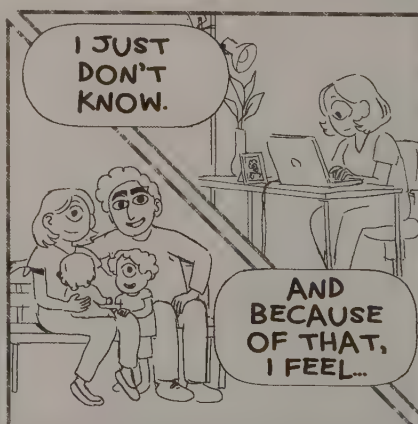
I MEAN...I FEEL  
LIKE I SHOULD STAY  
AT HOME AND BE  
WITH MY KIDS...



BUT I ALSO FEEL LIKE  
I SHOULD GO BACK  
TO WORK...



I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW.



AND  
BECAUSE  
OF THAT,  
I FEEL...

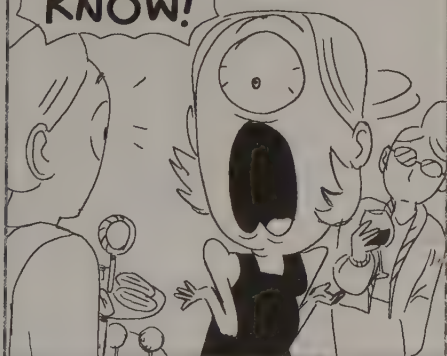
UNCERTAIN ABOUT  
EVERYTHING!



CAKE POP OR  
MADELEINE?



I DON'T  
KNOW!



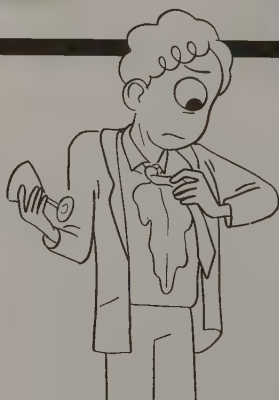
SORRY.



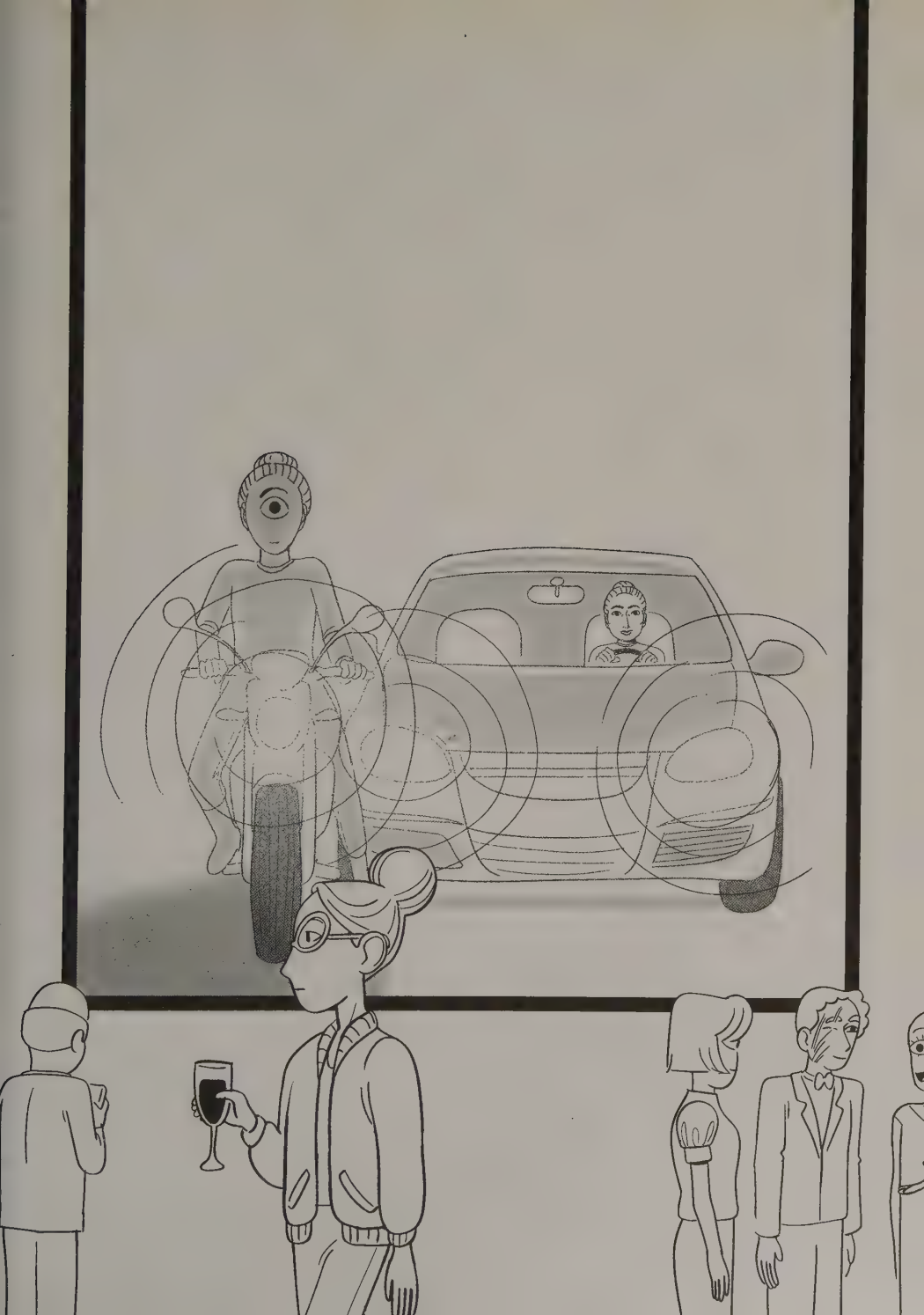
BOTH.  
Please.



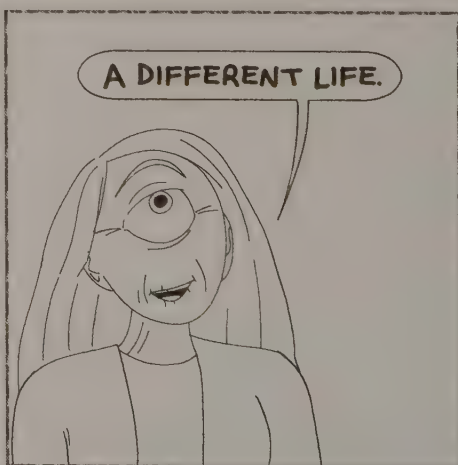
8:48pm

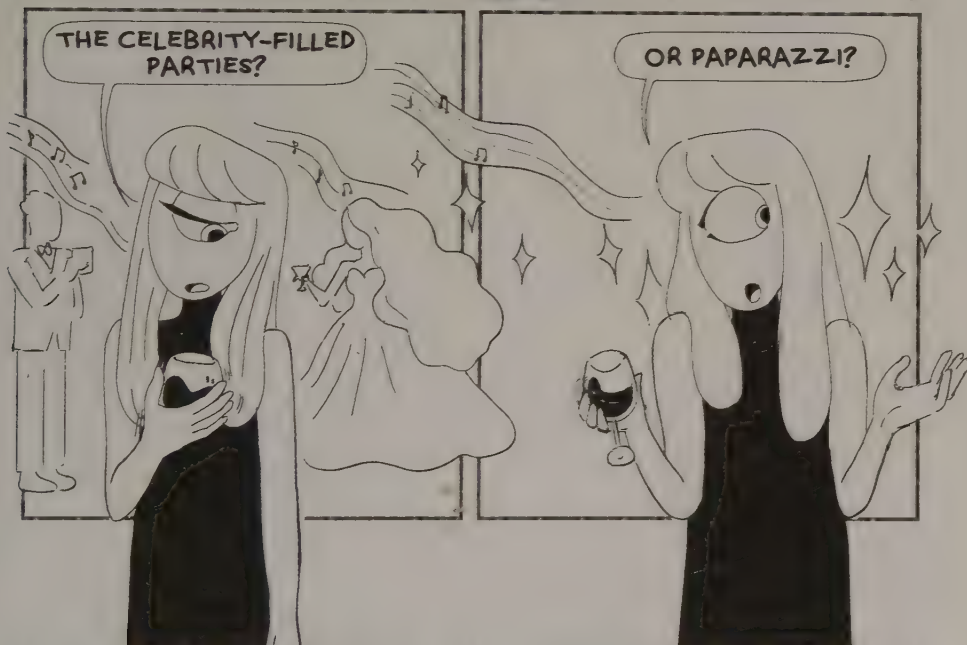






8:49pm Etna



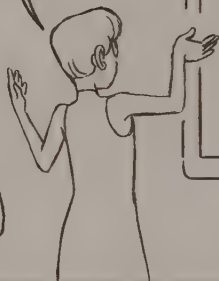


IT'S SO DEEP...

THIS  
IS NOT  
ART



AND...UH  
FULL-BODIED WITH  
RICH TEXTURE...



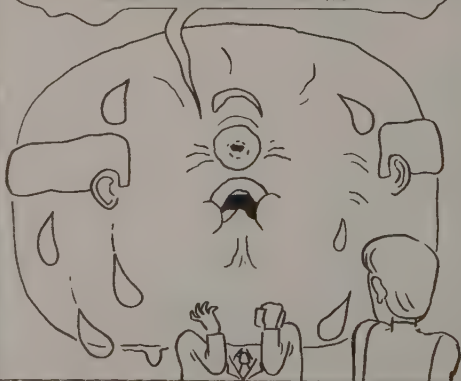
WHOOOOO YA TEXTIN'?

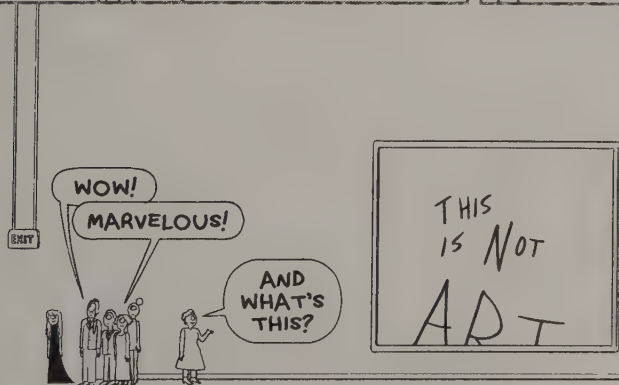
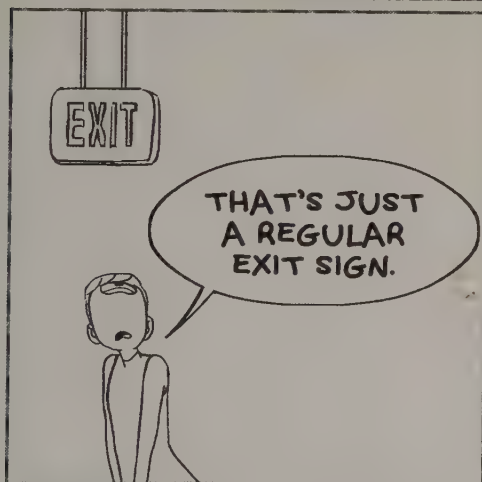
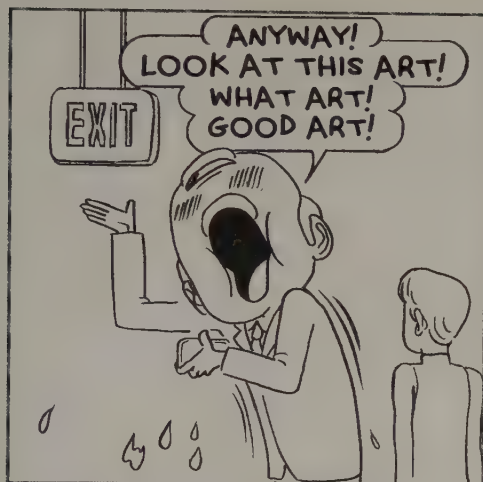


HUH?!  
WHAT?!  
NO ONE!  
MY MOM!



DEFINITELY NOT MY SECRET REAL-ESTATE  
AGENT ABOUT A PLACE I'M INTERESTED IN. THAT I  
WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO MOVE INTO IF YOU WANT.  
IT'S GOT A GARDEN FOR THE DOG AND GROWING VEGGIES  
AND THE PERFECT FIREPLACE TO CUDGLE WITH A GOOD BOOK  
IN FRONT OF AND IT'S RIND OF IN MY PRICE RANGE







DANG, THAT IS A  
HARD DECISION.

JUST MADE MY  
OWN MASTERPIECE  
IN THERE...

PLT PAT

YEAH. I'M HAVING  
AN IDENTITY CRISIS.

ON ONE HAND,  
I COULD  
GO BACK TO  
WORK AND  
BE RESENTED,  
ON THE OTHER  
HAND I COULD  
STAY HOME  
AND BE  
RESENTFUL.

WHAT'S ON THIS HAND?

GOING BACK TO WORK.  
WHICH, TO ME, IS THE  
SCARIER CHOICE...

BUT IT SCARES ME  
BECAUSE IT FEELS  
SELFISH, WHICH MIGHT  
MEAN I WANT IT MORE.



HEY LOOK AT YOU,  
HELPING ME FIGURE  
OUT WHAT I WANT.



GREAT, BUT I ACTUALLY  
MEANT **WHAT** IS ON  
THIS HAND?



OH WHOOPS. CAKE  
FROSTING FROM THE  
CAKE I ATE...  
ALONE IN THE BATHROOM.



11:00pm Bron

THIS PIECE IS JUST  
THAT CHILDREN'S BOOK  
"SUZY'S ONE EYE"  
REPEATING AGAIN AND  
AGAIN...



I WANT TO FIND THIS  
AUTHOR TO TELL HIM  
THAT BEING A CYCLOPS...



RARELY FEELS THIS  
SPECIAL. ALL MY LIFE, IT'S  
BEEN A DISADVANTAGE...

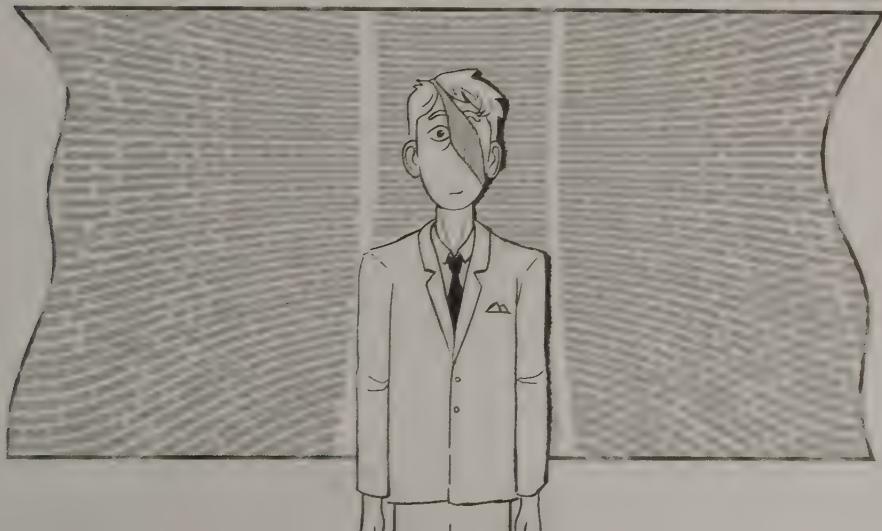
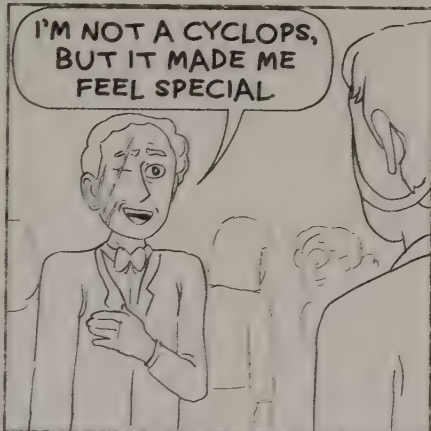
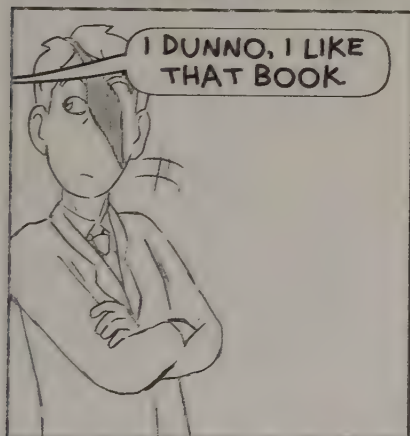
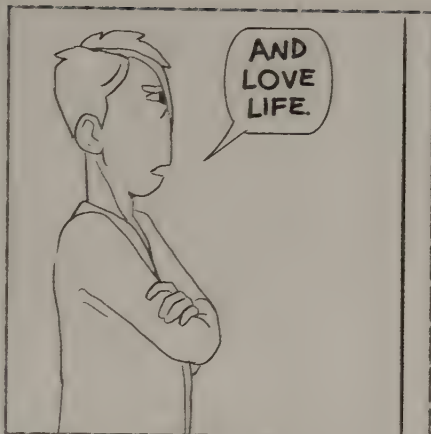
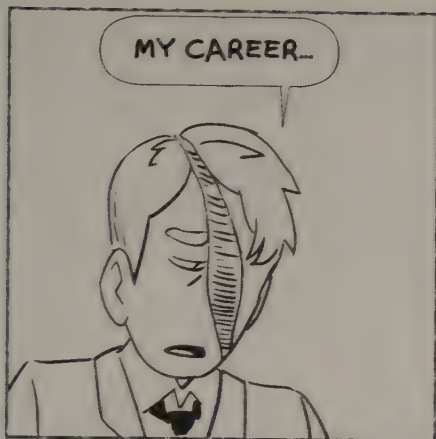


MY CYCLOPSNESS  
HAS AFFECTED MY...



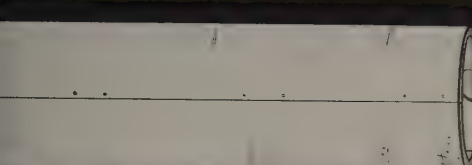
MY SELF-ESTEEM...











WORLD'S  
BIGGEST  
BASEBALL  
MITT!



THWACK!!!  
WORLD'S  
BIGGEST  
BASEBALL  
MITT!



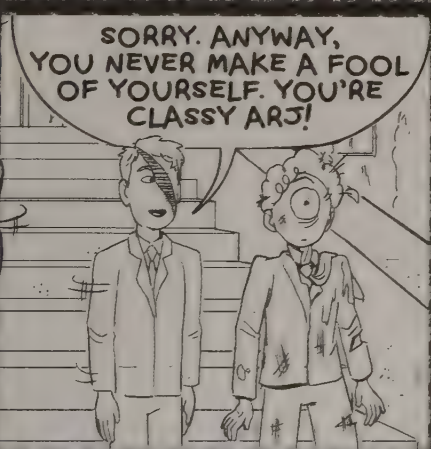
LET'S MEET  
UP AGAIN!

WHOOA!



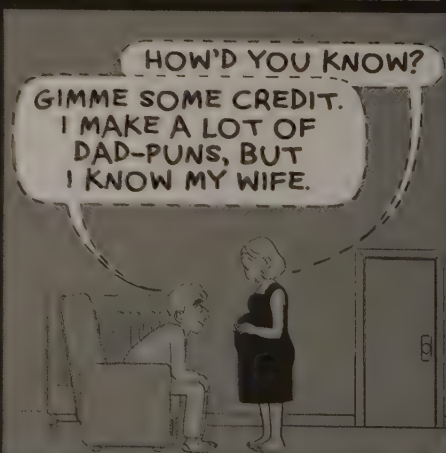
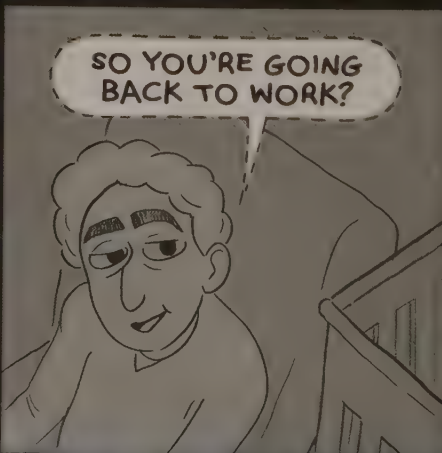
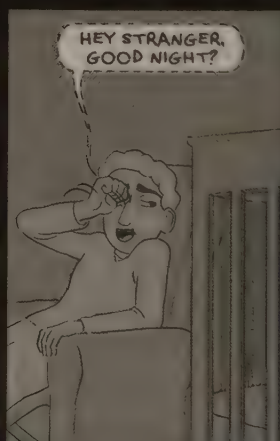
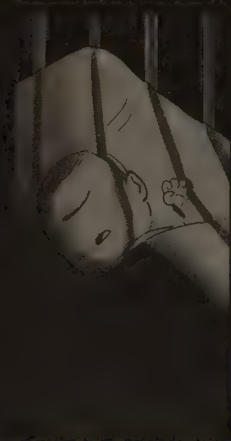
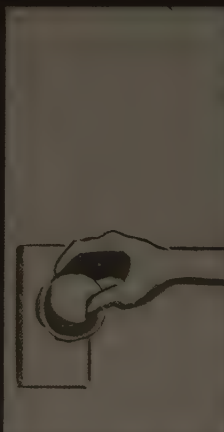
FOR SURE

UGH

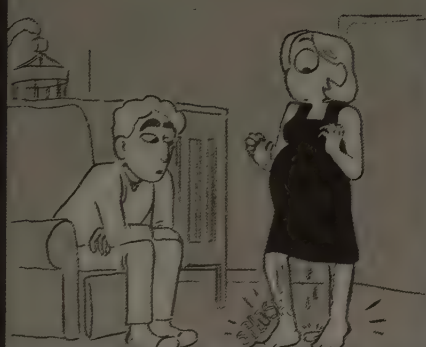


SORRY. ANYWAY,  
YOU NEVER MAKE A FOOL  
OF YOURSELF. YOU'RE  
CLASSY ARJ!

12:18am  
Pari



I'M FEELING  
GOOD ABOUT IT!



OF COURSE YOU  
FEEL GOOD. YOU'RE A  
BIG FAN OF LABOR.



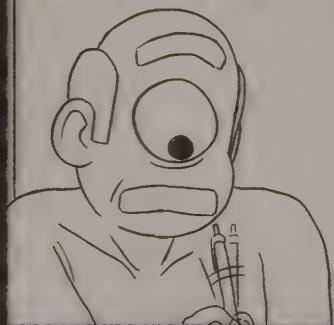
3:00am Pol



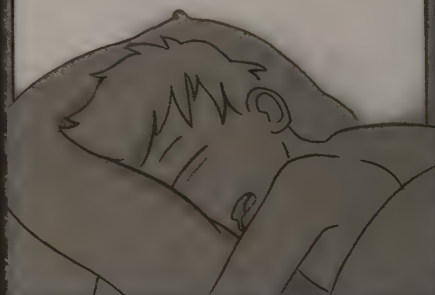
Dear Mrs. Wilson,  
I have put an offer  
on your house.  
My name is Pol.



your house. My name is  
Pol, I've dreamt of owning  
a house like yours since I  
was a young boy.



was a young boy. While  
other parts of my life are  
starting to take shape,





starting to take shape,  
the only thing that is  
missing are the four walls  
to surround my beautiful  
life.

to surround my beautiful  
life. Like many minorities,  
I had a complicated  
childhood. I come from a  
single-parent immigrant  
household.



household.

I was taught to work hard  
and keep my guard up.  
Thankfully the hard work  
has led me to this offer.



has led me to this offer.

A perfect house, like  
yours, dominates my  
fantasy life. It  
represents stability,  
safety, and is a  
life-milestone I've been  
chasing for years,



chasing for years,  
regardless of the weird  
street name.

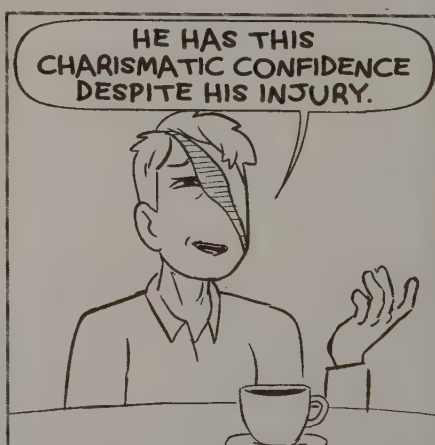
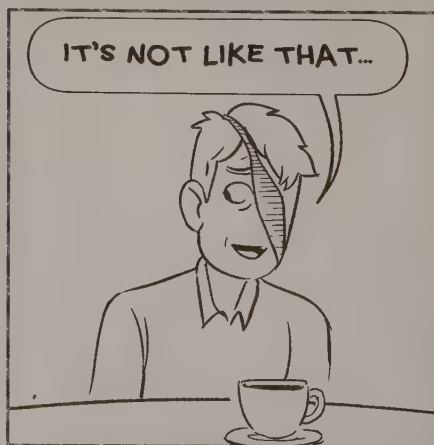
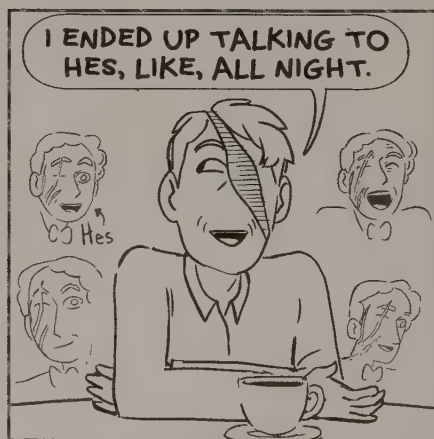
Thank you for  
your time,

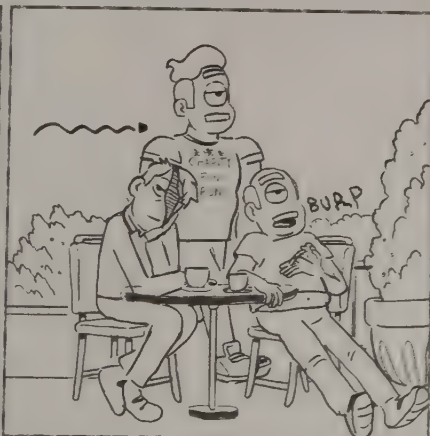
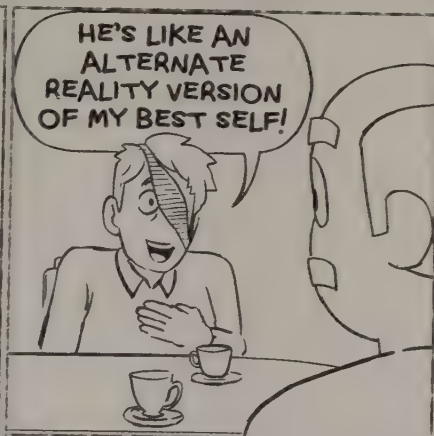
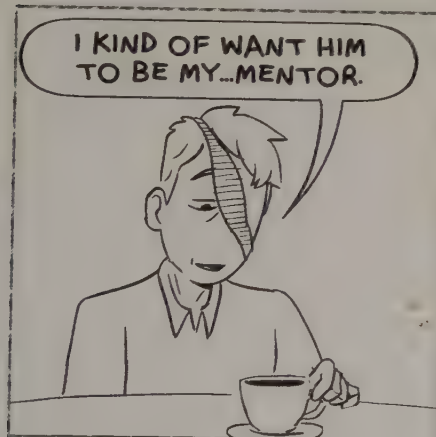
Pl

BUTTFART St

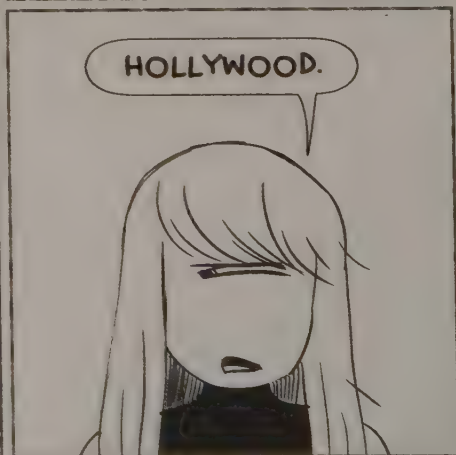
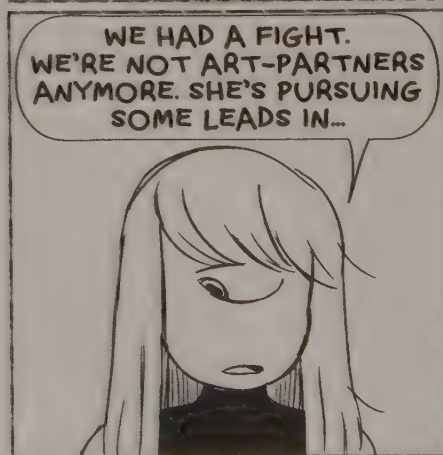
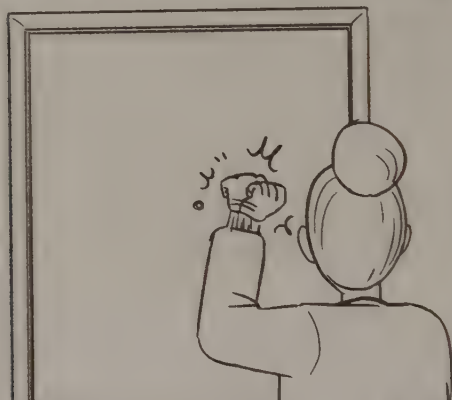


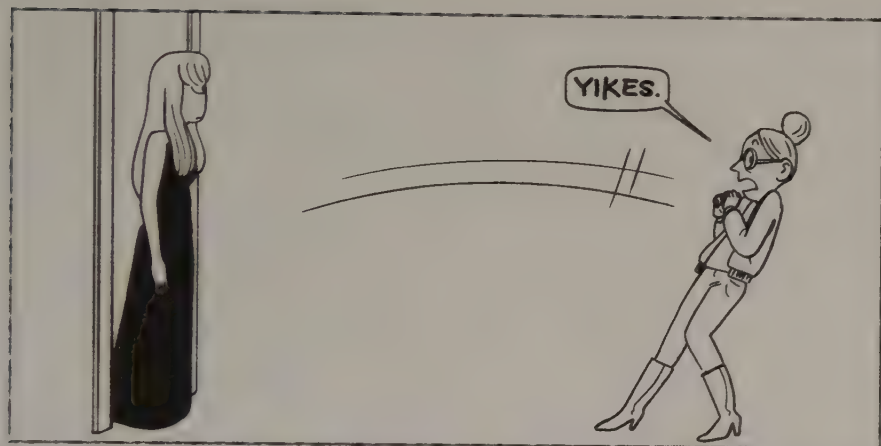






Morning after gallery opening, Jian's apartment





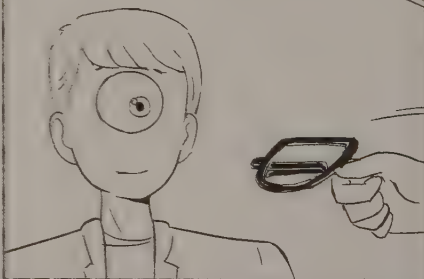
OKAY SO LATEA, IN  
THIS AD YOU'LL BE  
PLAYING A SCIENTIST.



WE'LL DO SOME SHOTS  
IN THE LAB AND THEN  
A CLOSE-UP OF THE  
CONTACT LENSES AND  
EYEGASSES.



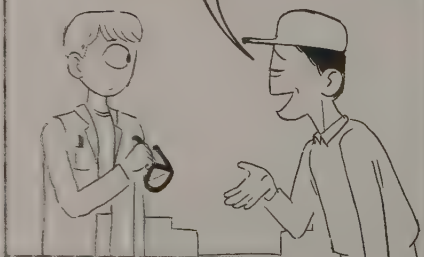
HERE ARE YOUR  
GLASSES.



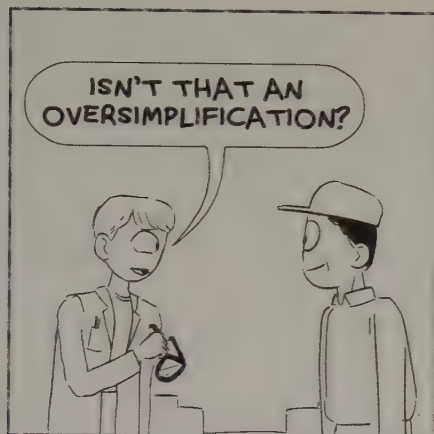
JIM, WOULD IT BE  
POSSIBLE TO WEAR  
CONTACTS INSTEAD?



NAH. AUDIENCES LISTEN  
TO SMART PEOPLE  
AND SMART PEOPLE  
WEAR GLASSES.







## The overly enthusiastic



THANKS FOR DOING THIS, IT SHOULD BE A GOOD SPOTLIGHT PIECE.



OKAY, WELL, I'M THE TOP-RATED CYCLOPS GYNECOLOGIST IN THE AREA AND I'M A TWO-EYES.

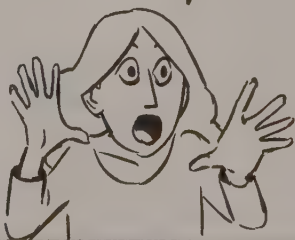


AND WHAT DREW YOU TO THIS CAREER?

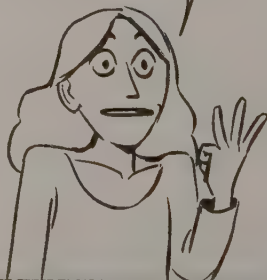
I SUPPOSE CYCLOPEAN ANATOMY IS INCREDIBLY INTERESTING.



I MEAN, THREE VAGINAS? FASCINATING!



THREE OF THEM!



AT THIS POINT I'M  
CONVINCED WE  
SHOULD RENAME  
CYCLOPS VAGINAS A...



A TRI...

TRI...



TRI...



TRI-GINA?

A TRIUMPH!



# Family

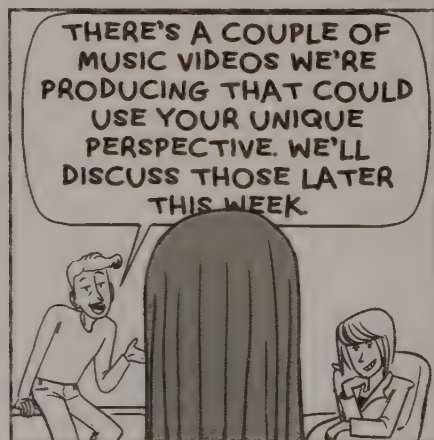
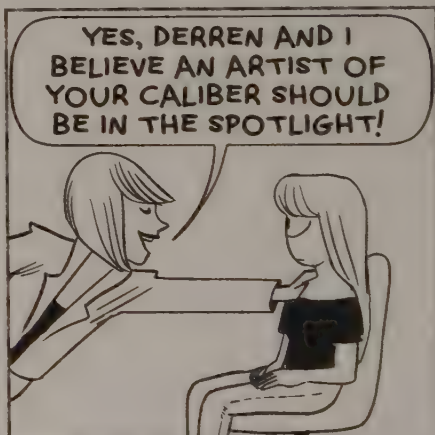


## Called out





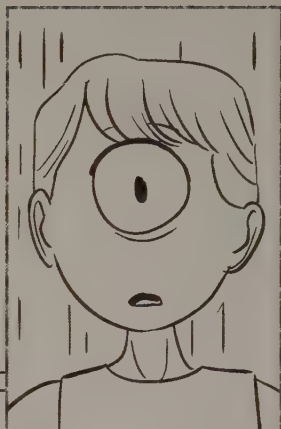
# Grae lands in Hollywood





Tired

THAT BILLBOARD  
ACROSS THE STREET  
IS GIGANT—



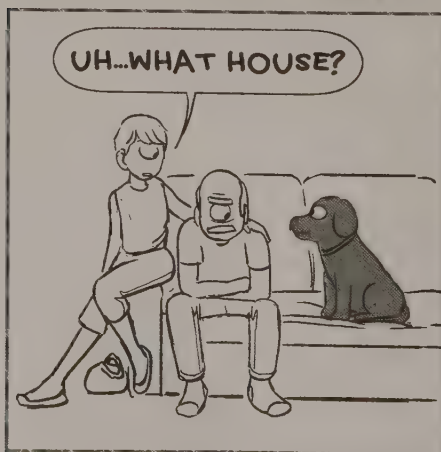
WHAT'S WRONG?



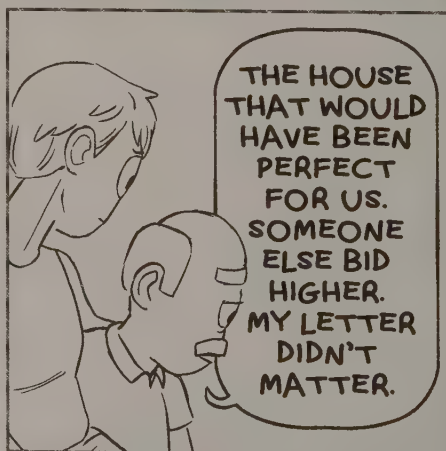
I DIDN'T GET THE HOUSE.



UH...WHAT HOUSE?



THE HOUSE  
THAT WOULD  
HAVE BEEN  
PERFECT  
FOR US.  
SOMEONE  
ELSE BID  
HIGHER.  
MY LETTER  
DIDN'T  
MATTER.



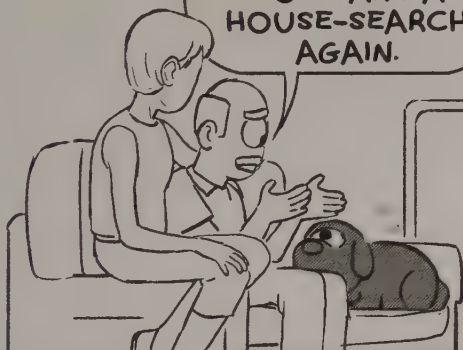
YOU WERE LOOKING  
FOR A HOUSE...FOR US?



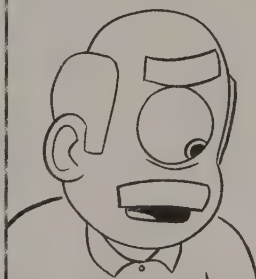
I WAS GOING TO ASK  
YOU TO MOVE IN WITH ME.



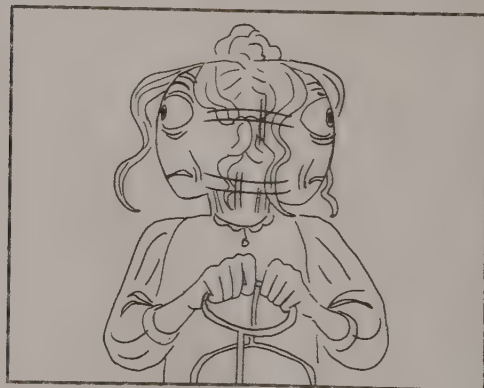
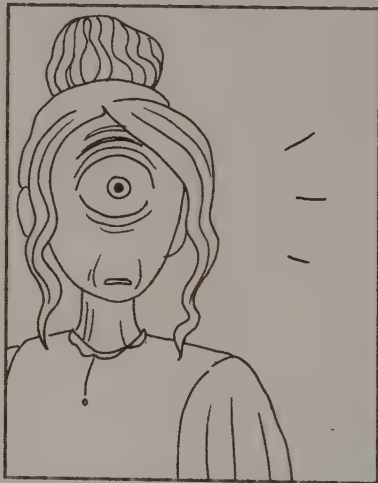
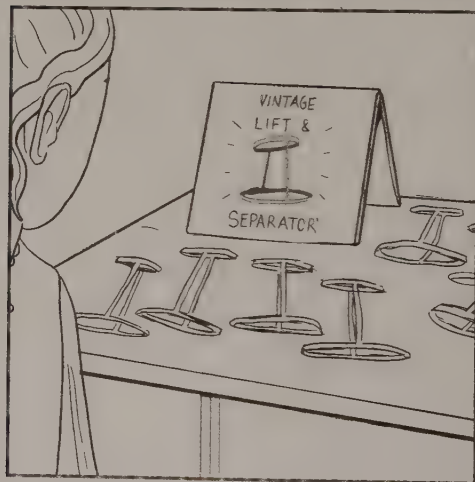
BUT...  
I DON'T WANT  
TO START A  
HOUSE-SEARCH  
AGAIN.



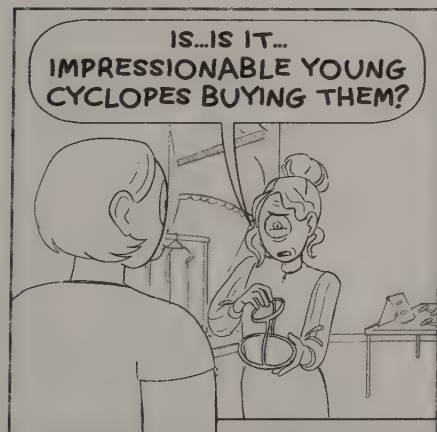
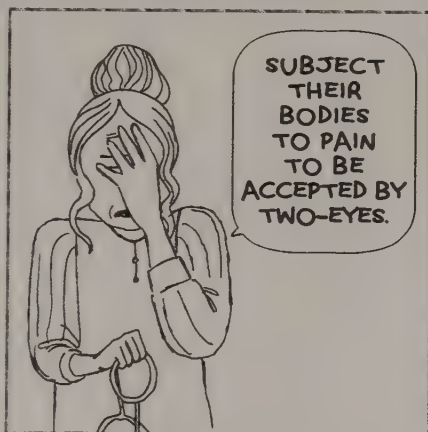
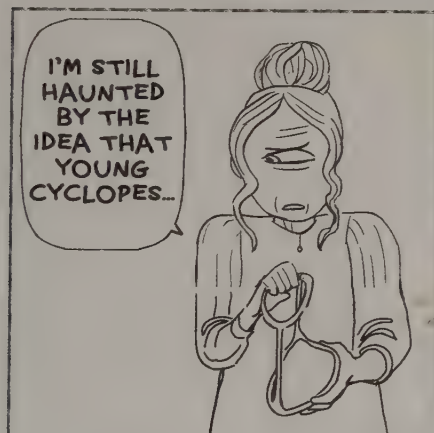
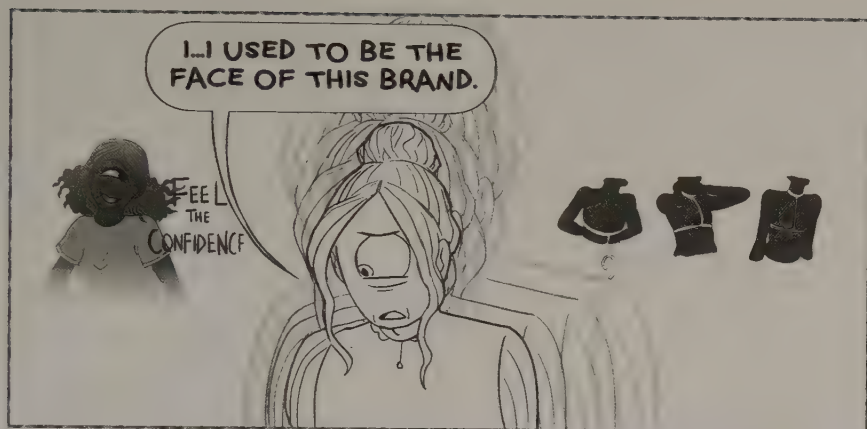
I'M TIRED OF  
LOOKING AT  
THINGS I CAN'T  
AFFORD.



# Facing your past at the mall



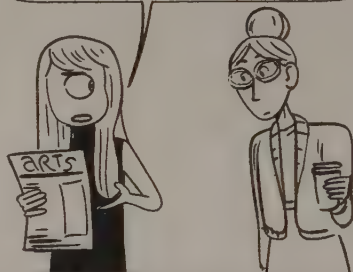




I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS  
GALLERY REVIEW!  
IT'S ALL ABOUT...



ME AND GRAE AND HOW  
WE BROKE OUR CREATIVE  
PARTNERSHIP! IT DOESN'T  
EVEN MENTION THE ART!



THIS IS ALL GRAE'S FAULT.  
SHE THOUGHT WE HAD TO  
ESTABLISH OURSELVES...



AS INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS,  
RATHER THAN AS  
PARTNERS, AND NOW...

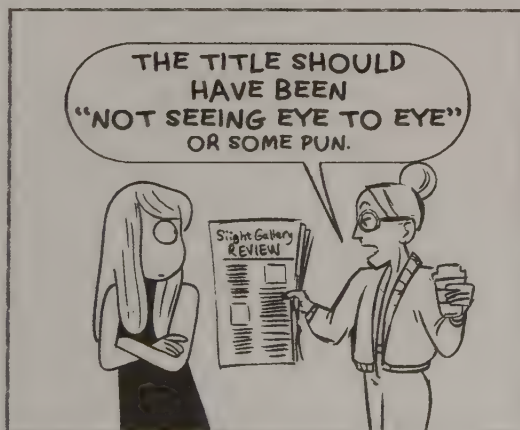
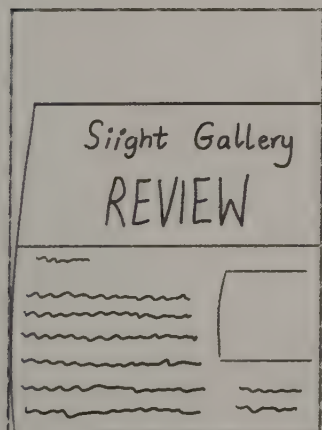
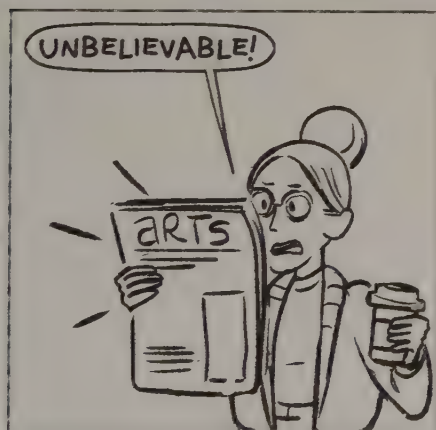
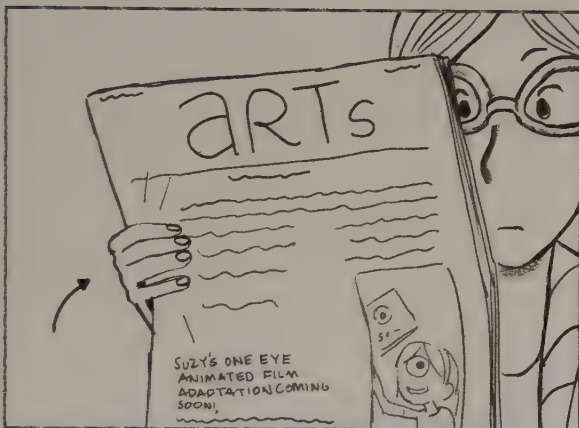
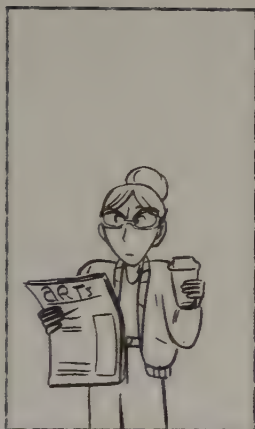


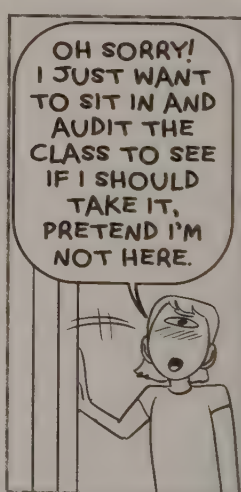
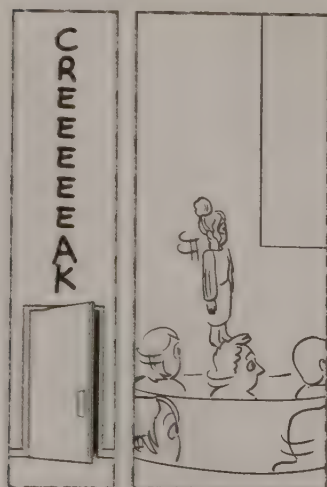
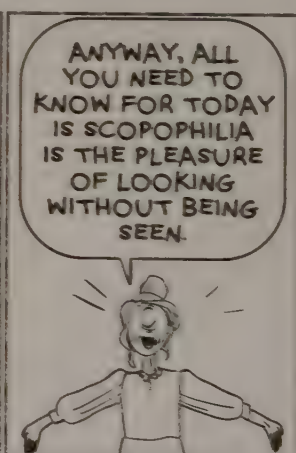
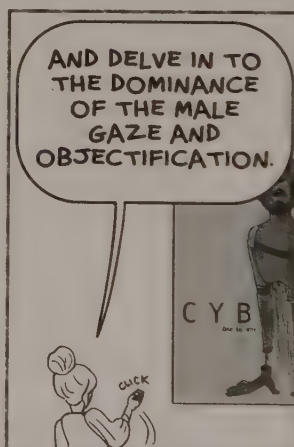
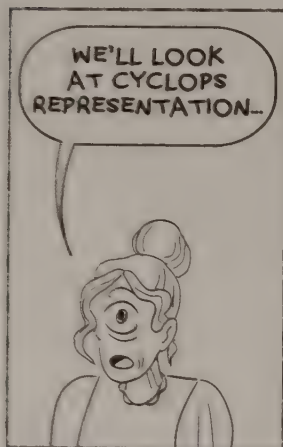
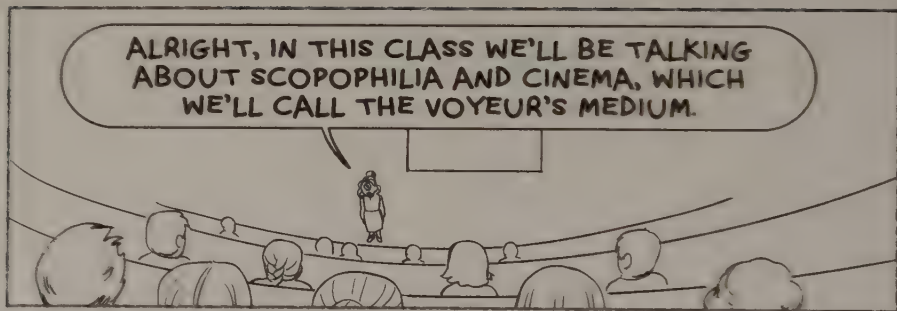
THE REVIEW IS  
ALL ABOUT US AND  
NOT THE ART!



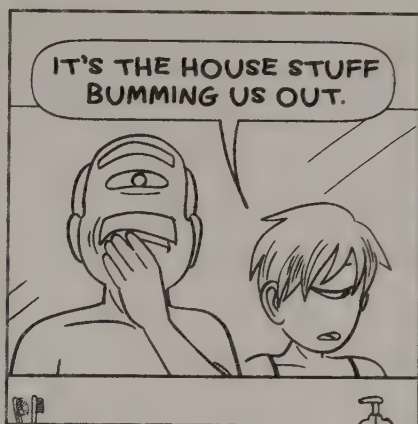
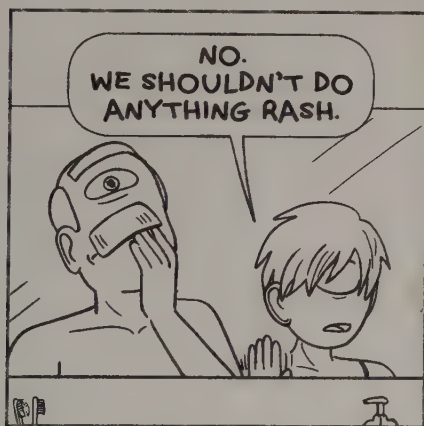
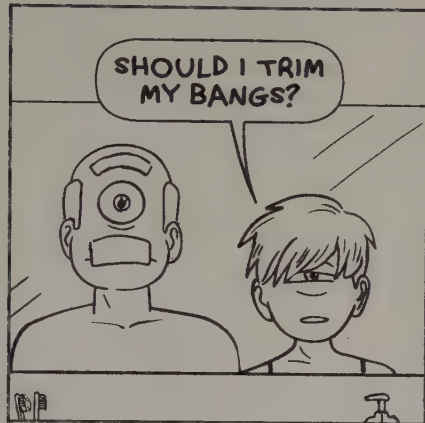
CAN I SEE?



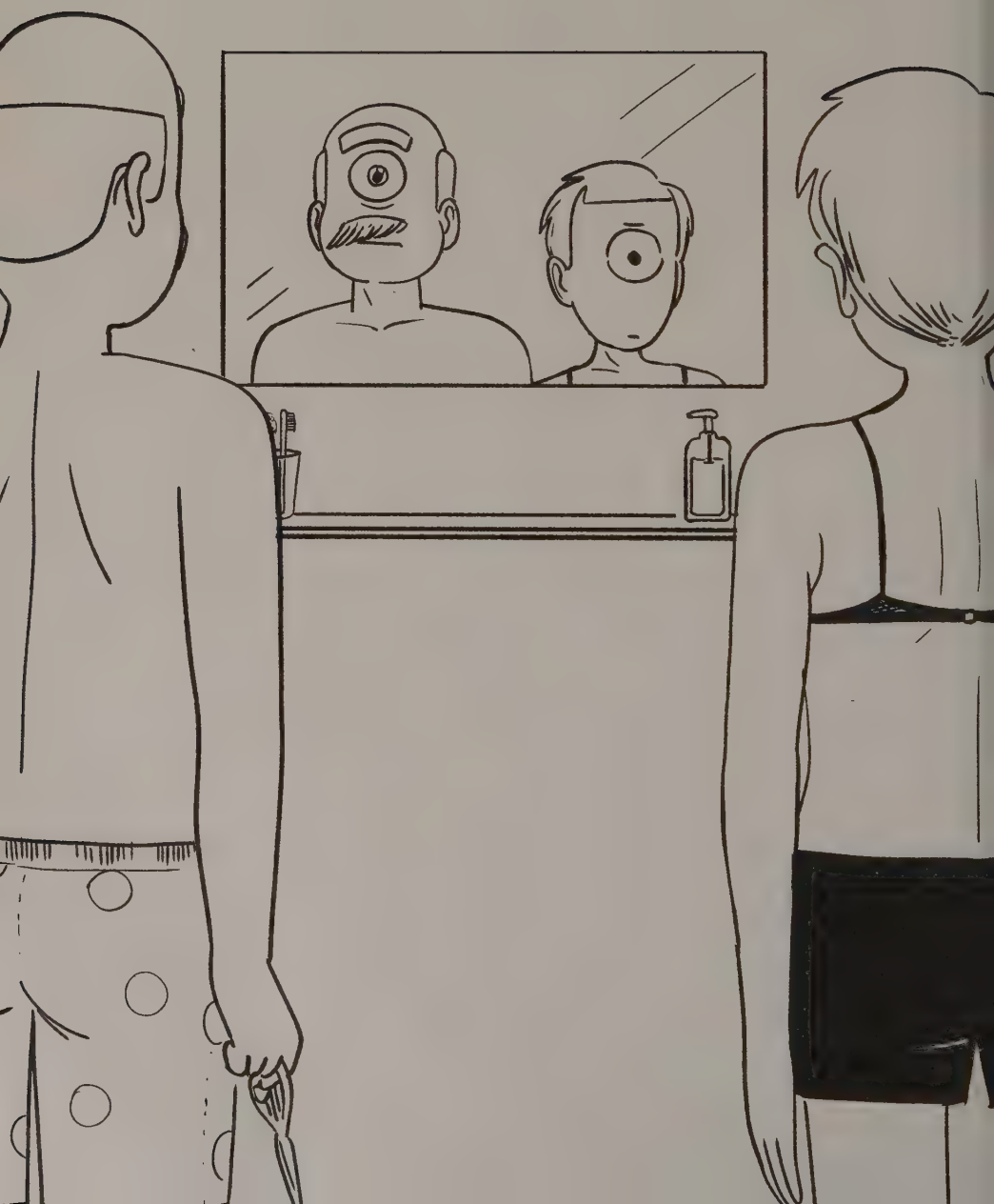




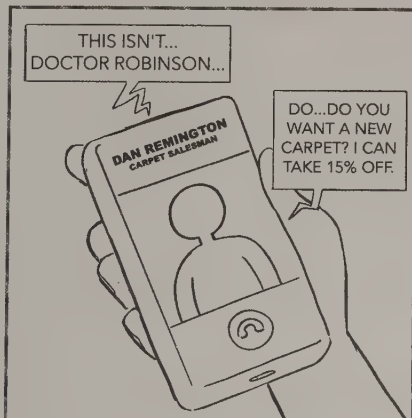
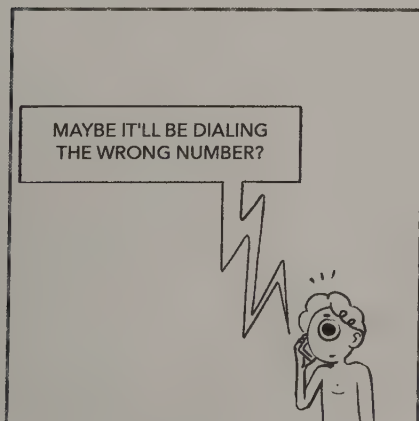
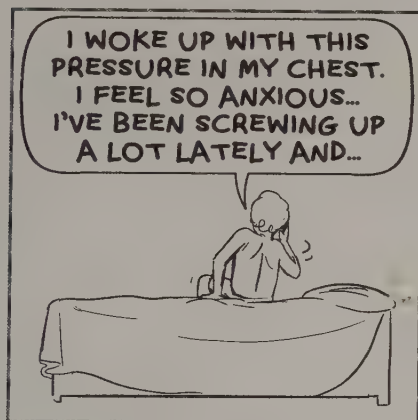
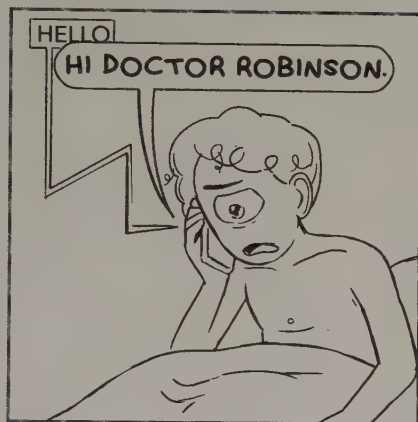
# Mistakes were made



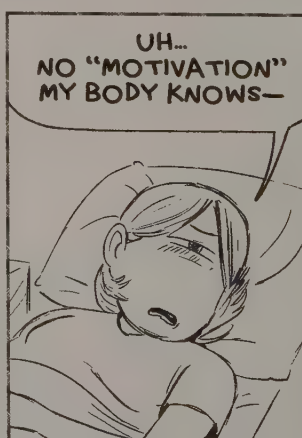
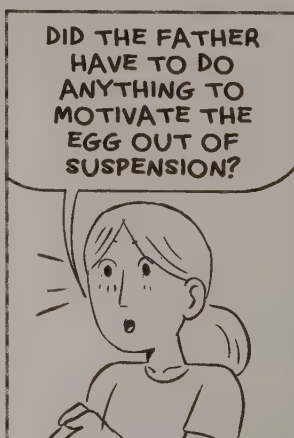
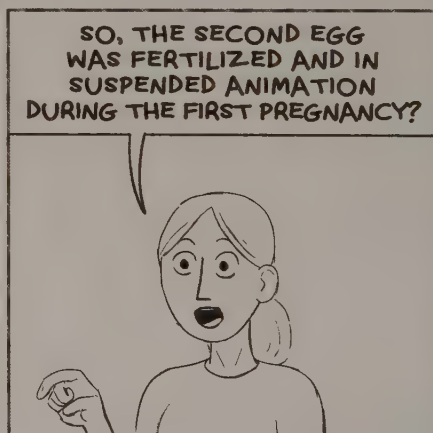
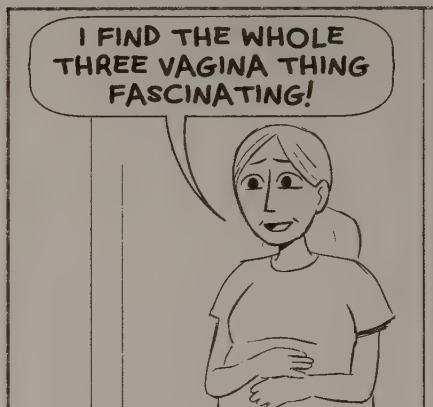
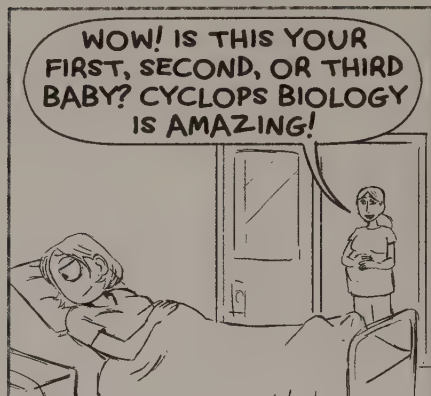


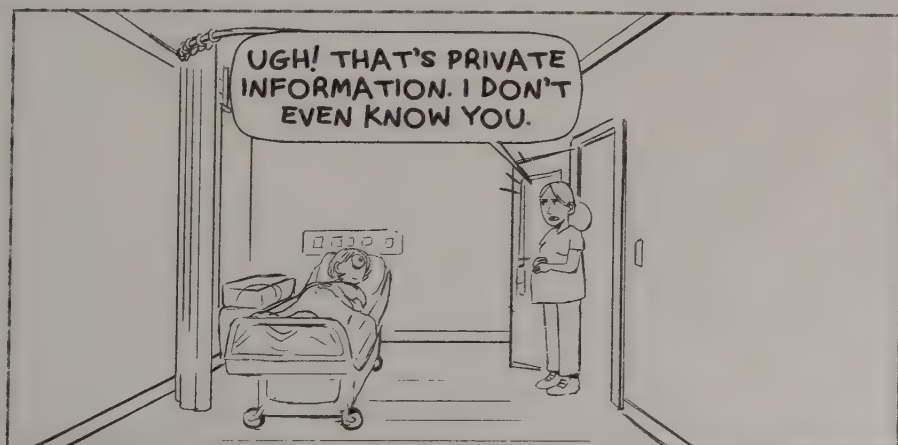
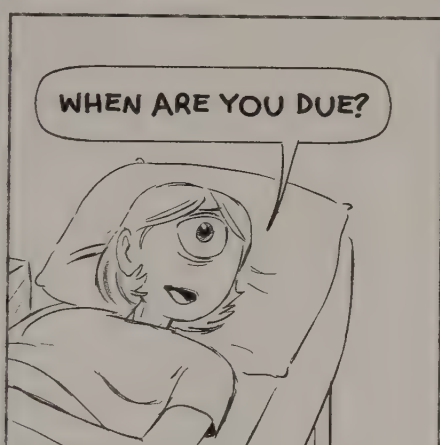
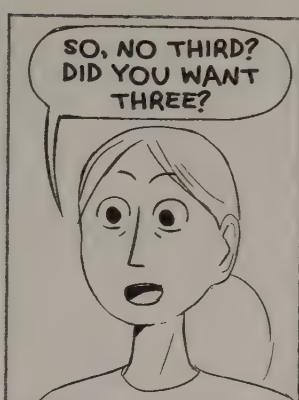
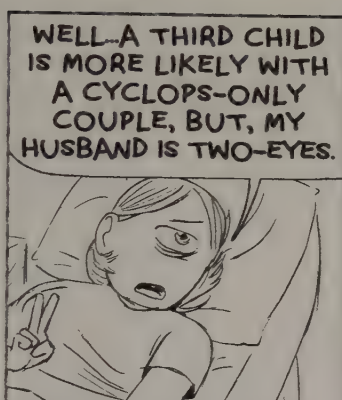


# screwing up

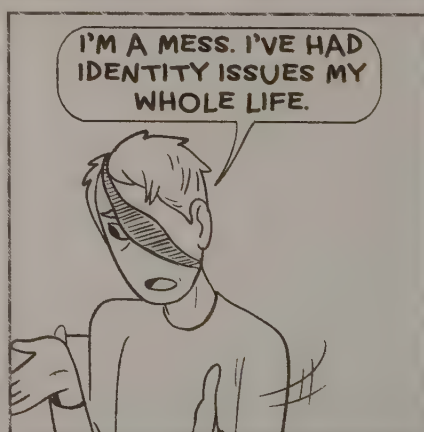
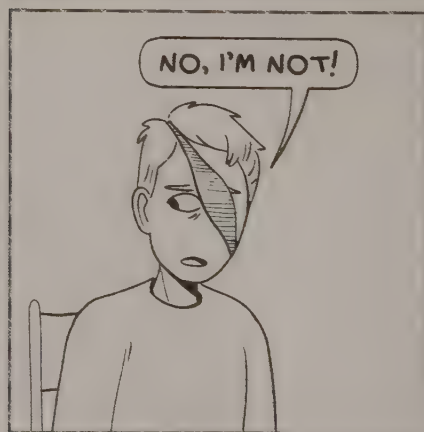
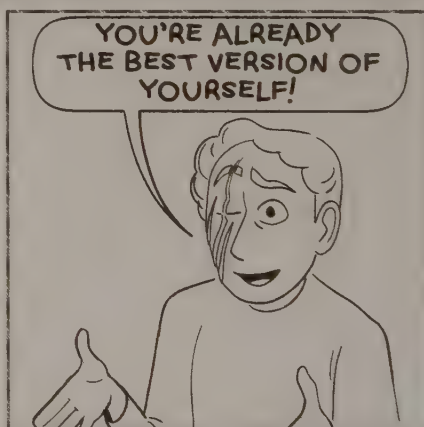
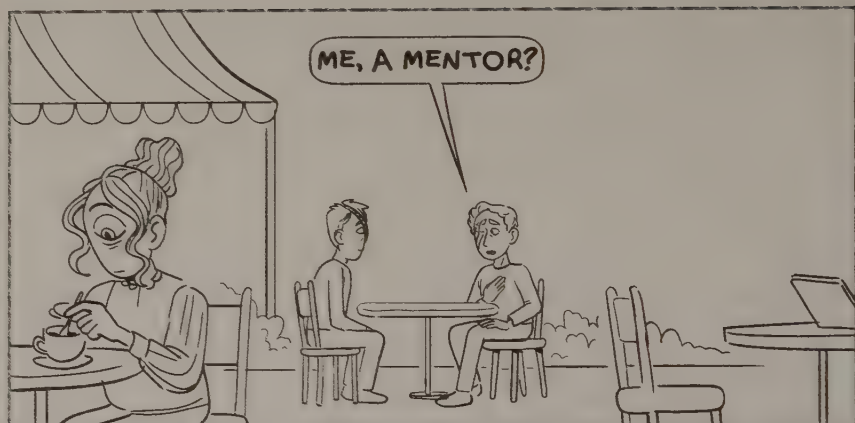


# Your body is public





# Mentor





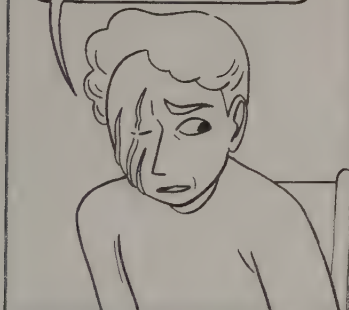
AND I NEED SOMEONE  
TO SHOW ME HOW TO  
BE HAPPY.



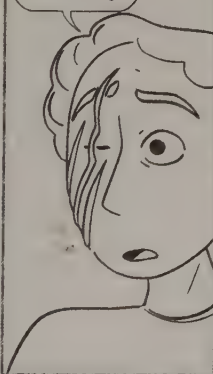
SOMEONE PERFECT,  
LIKE YOU.



NO ONE'S AS  
SECURE AS YOU  
THINK THEY ARE.



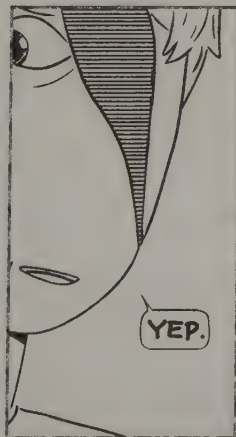
WAIT!



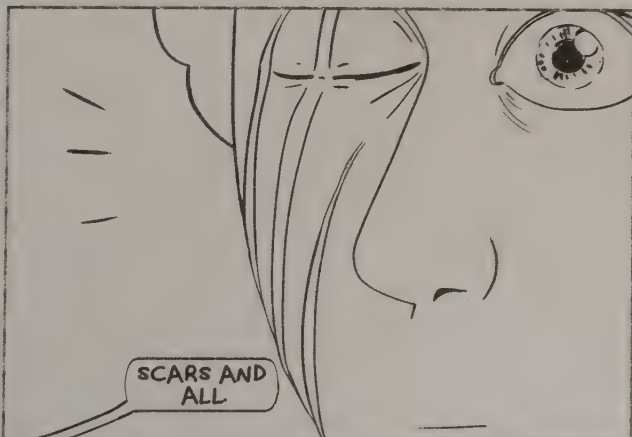
YOU THINK  
I'M PERFECT?



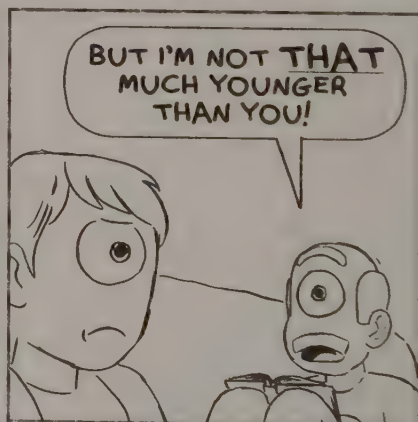
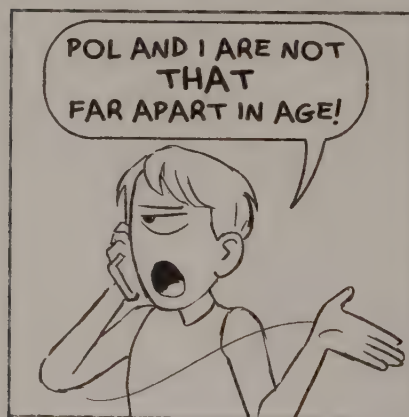
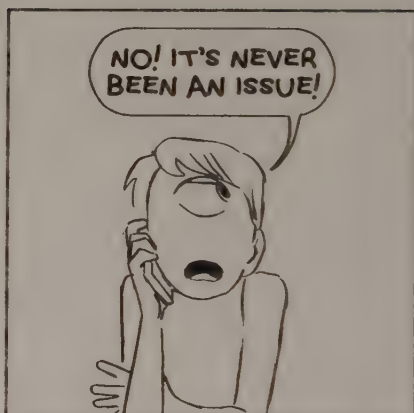
YEP.



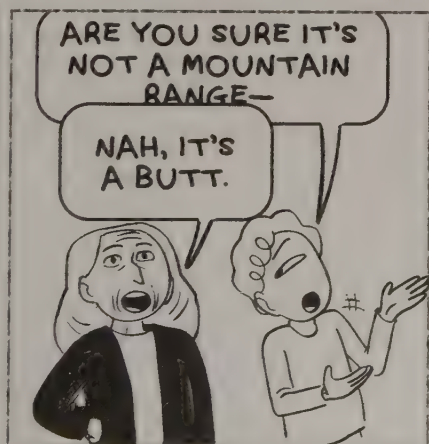
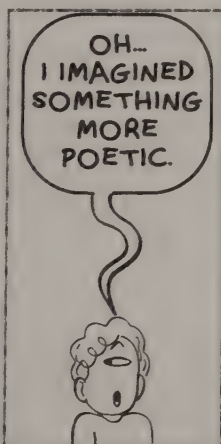
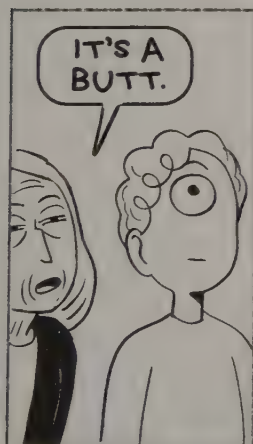
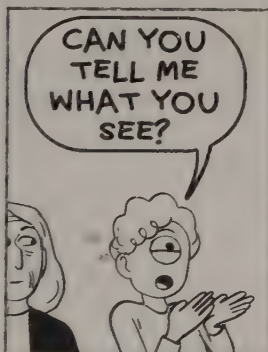
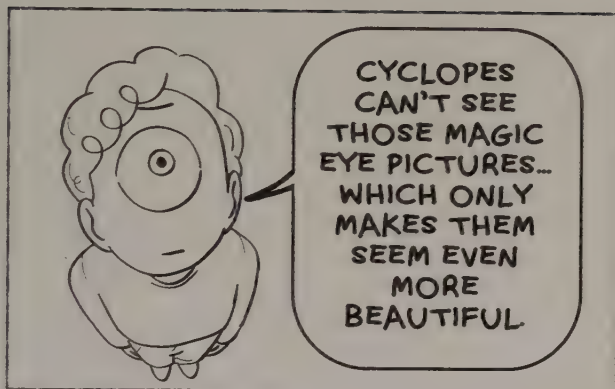
SCARS AND  
ALL



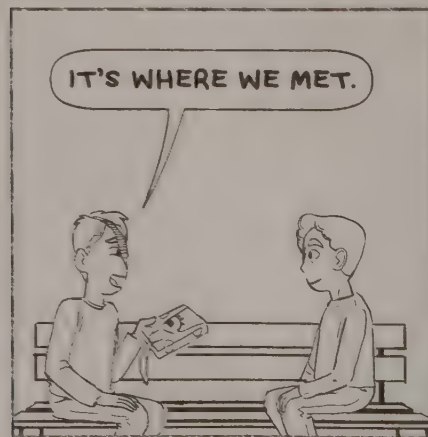
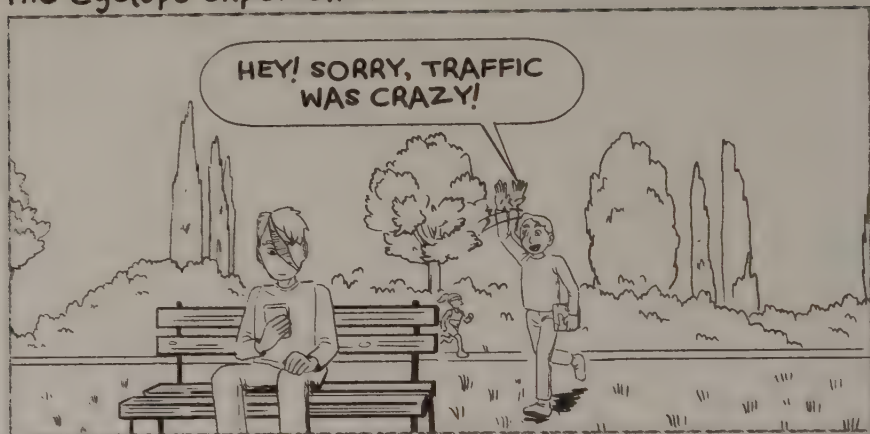
## Differences



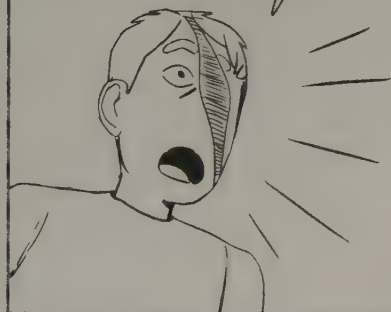
# stereograms



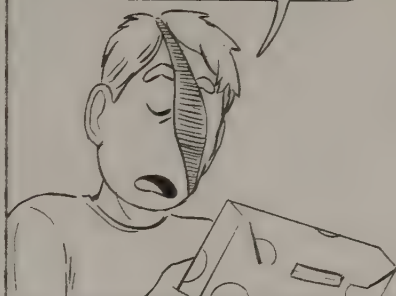
# The Cyclops experience



I DON'T HATE IT!



IT'S JUST...  
I KNOW I COULD WRITE  
SOMETHING BETTER!



SOMETHING DEEPER  
ABOUT THE CYCLOPS  
EXPERIENCE.



YOU WRITE?  
I'D LOVE TO  
READ YOUR  
STUFF!



OH...  
WELL...NO.

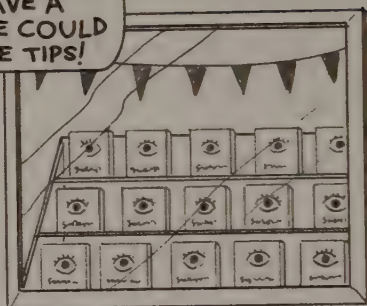
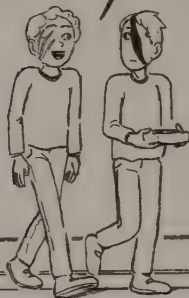
I'VE NEVER WRITTEN ANYTHING.





Followed

YOU SHOULD CONSIDER  
WRITING! I HAVE A  
FRIEND, PARI, SHE COULD  
GIVE YOU SOME TIPS!



SHE'S ON MATERNITY  
LEAVE NOW, BUT...



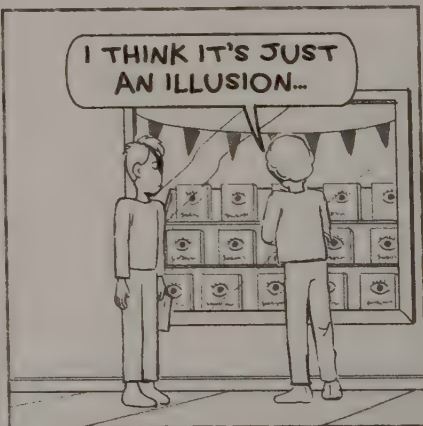
EVERYWHERE I GO...  
THERE IT IS...

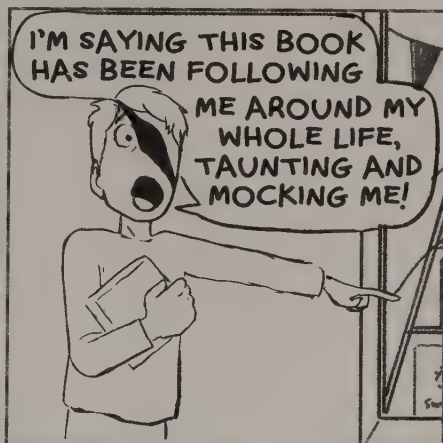


THIS BOOK IS  
FOLLOWING ME!

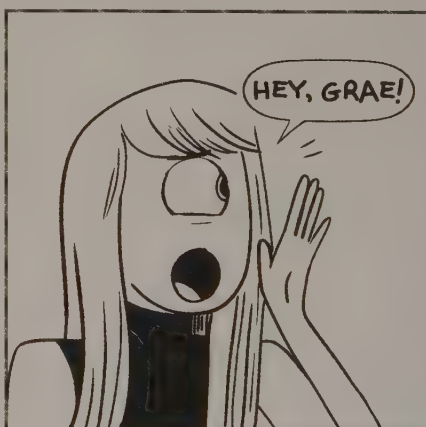
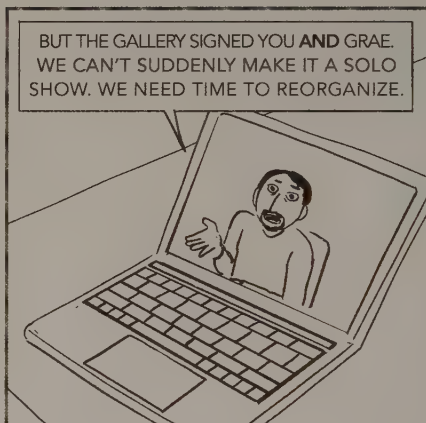


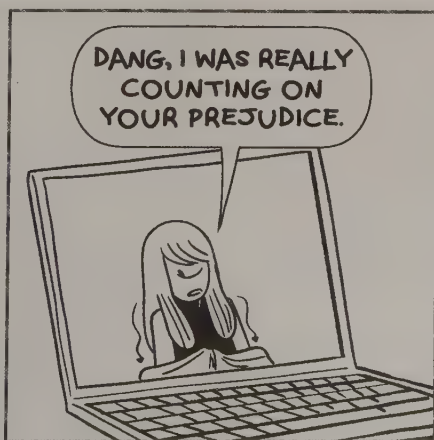
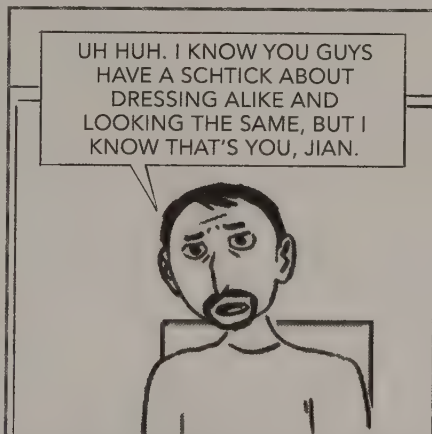
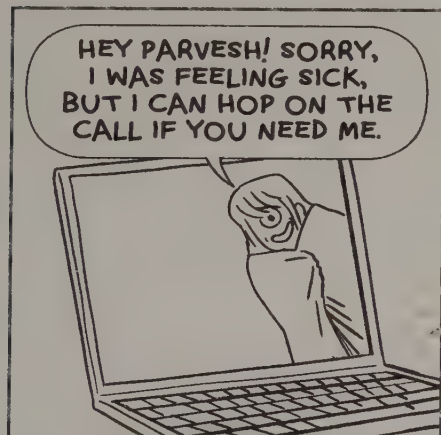
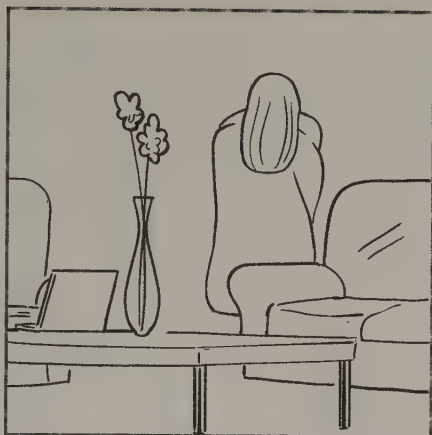
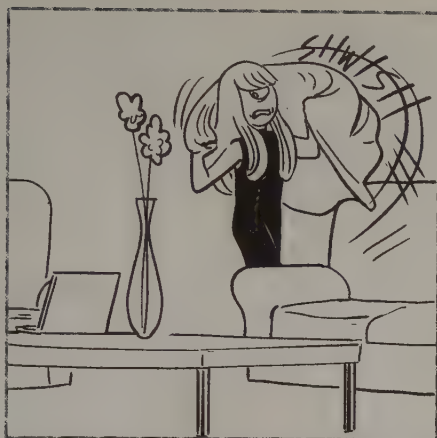
I THINK IT'S JUST  
AN ILLUSION...





# Canceled galleries



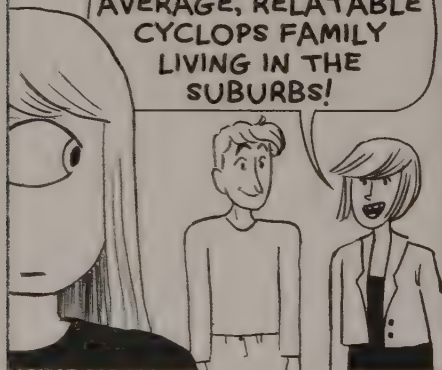


# Grae in Hollywood

GRAE, THEY'RE OFFERING  
A CONSULTING PRODUCER  
CREDIT, IT'S CALLED,  
"AN EYE FOR AN EYE."



IT'S ABOUT YOUR  
AVERAGE, RELATABLE  
CYCLOPS FAMILY  
LIVING IN THE  
SUBURBS!



IF THE TWO-EYES SHOW  
CREATORS WANT MY CONSULT...  
THE "AVERAGE" CYCLOPS LIVES IN  
THE CITY NOT THE SUBURBS, AND  
THEY LIVE IN APARTMENTS NOT  
HOUSES. SO, I WOULDN'T  
ADVERTISE A SHOW LIKE THIS AS  
"AVERAGE" OR "RELATABLE."



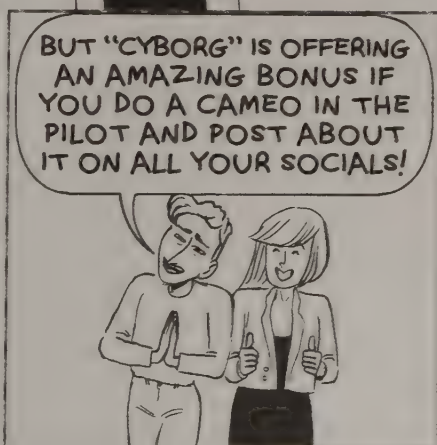
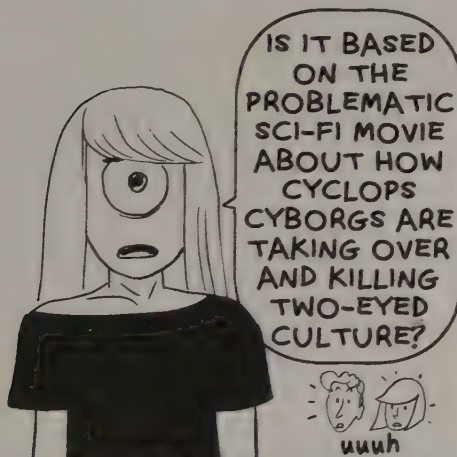
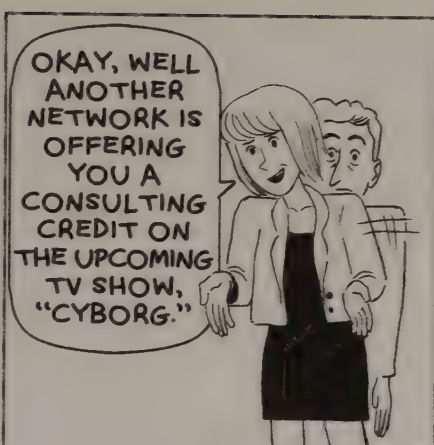
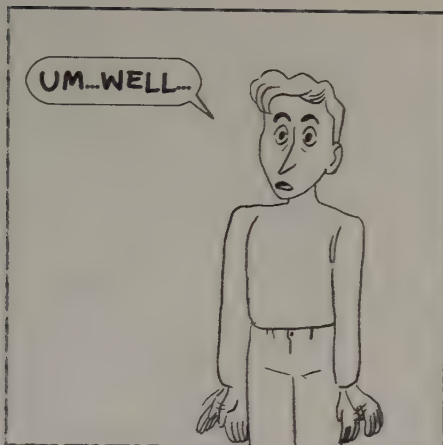
IT LOOKS BIG, BECAUSE  
IT'S A SET! THE CAMERA  
SHRINKS EVERYTHING!



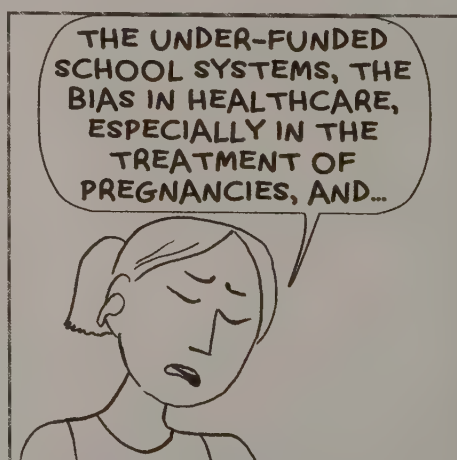
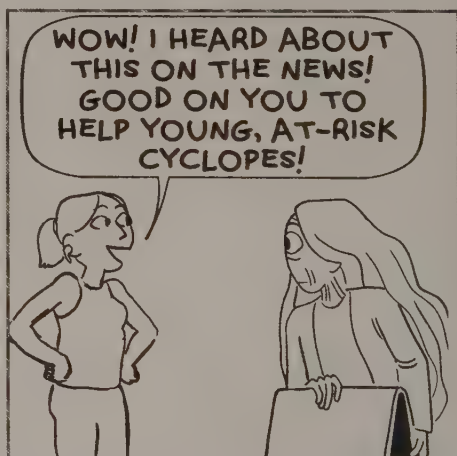
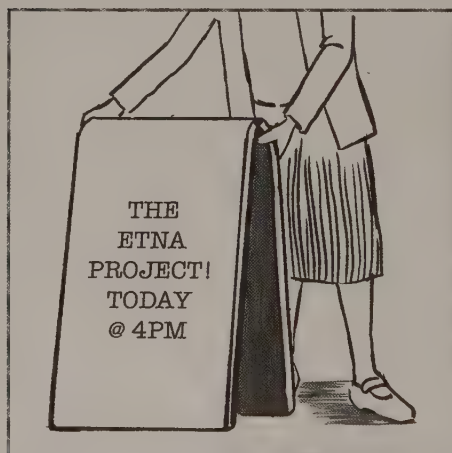
BUT THE CAMERA WON'T  
MAKE A HOUSE LOOK LIKE  
AN APARTMENT.







## Etna gives back to the community



THAT'S ON TOP OF  
ALL THE PREJUDICES!



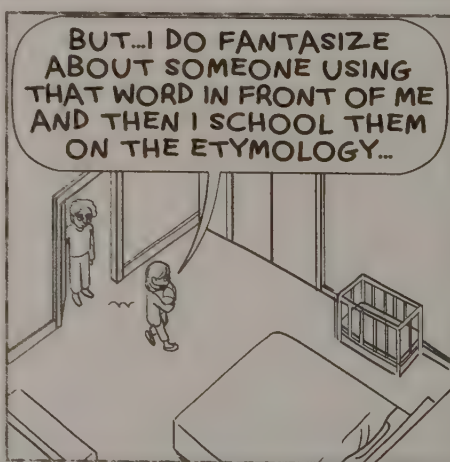
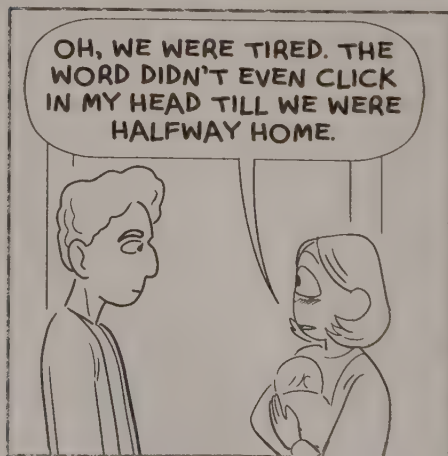
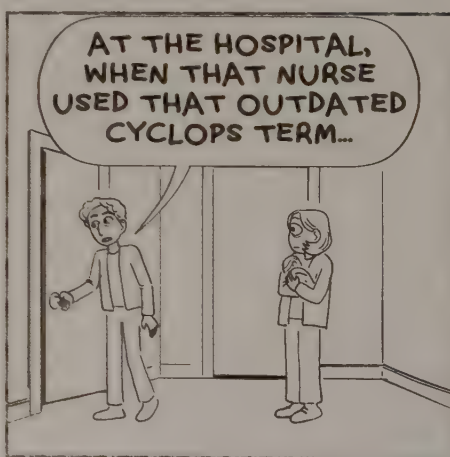
RIGHT?



UM, YES. BUT,  
I WAS GOING TO SAY, THE  
BIGGEST ISSUE CYCLOPES  
FACE IS OUR VOICES NOT  
BEING HEARD.



# Tim and Pari leave the hospital



FROM THAT FAMOUS  
BOOK ON CYCLOPS HISTORY  
BY THAT ONE GUY...



"THE CYCLOPS EXPERIENCE"  
BY PETYR HOELING?



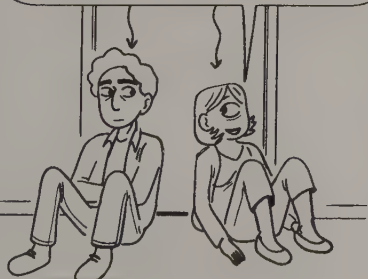
WHAT? YOU KNOW IT?  
I THOUGHT ONLY CYCLOPES  
KNOW THAT BOOK.



I READ IT WHEN WE  
STARTED DATING.



WOW, WELL...I SHOULD  
READ IT. ALL I KNOW  
ABOUT CYCLOPES ARE THE  
HIGHLIGHTS AND MY OWN  
ANECDOTAL EXPERIENCE.



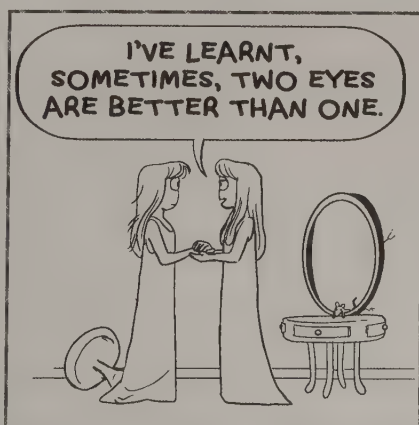
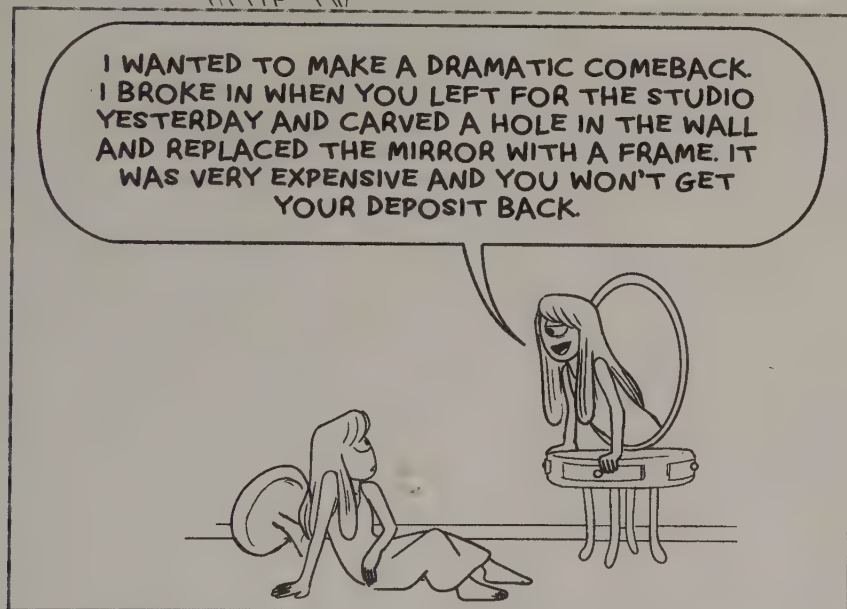
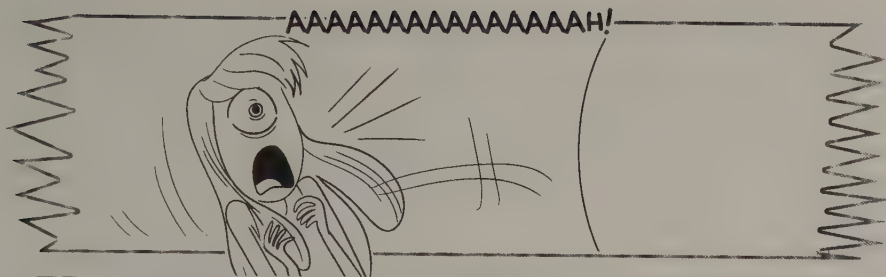
THAT'S WHY I READ IT,  
BECAUSE YOU, AT THE  
BARE MINIMUM, HAVE  
ANECDOTAL EXPERIENCE.  
I DON'T EVEN HAVE THAT.





# Reflecting





THAT BULLY,  
ERIC WOOD, DEFINED  
MY LIFE.



BUT ALSO, HE  
BULLIED ALL THE  
CYCLOPES IN TOWN...  
SO I WASN'T SPECIAL.



THAT GUY WAS DEALING  
WITH SOMETHING OF HIS  
OWN AND THAT IS NOT  
MY PROBLEM.



HE ACTUALLY HAS NO  
HOLD ON ME ANYMORE.  
I'M OVER HIM AND HOW  
HE MADE ME FEEL.



I USED TO JUST SAY  
THAT, BUT NOW I CAN  
ACTUALLY FEEL THE  
CHANGE IN MY BONES.



I WONDER WHERE  
HE IS NOW.



LATER, AT THE CLUB.



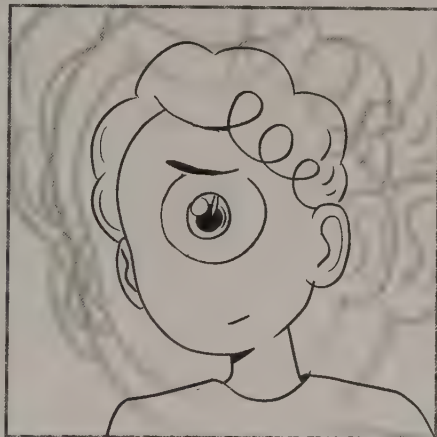
NO WAY!

ERIC WOOD?



A COUPLE OF DRINKS LATER...

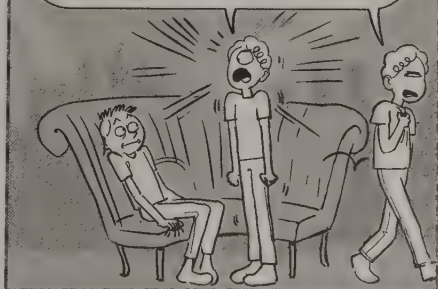
I HAD A CRUSH ON THIS CYCLOPS, AND WHEN HE REJECTED ME, I TOOK IT OUT ON ALL CYCLOPS. I WAS HORRIBLE, IT'S EMBARRASSING.



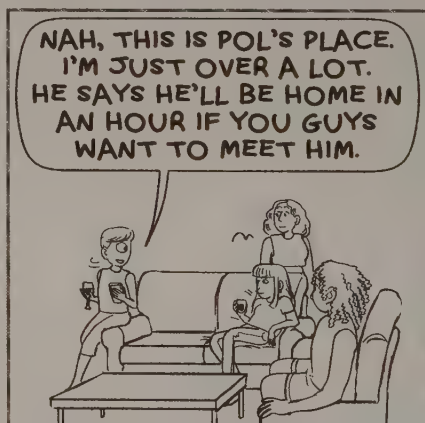
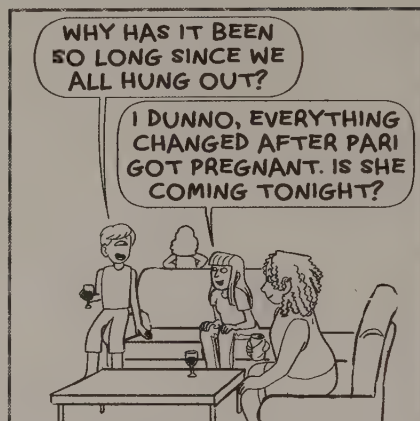
I'M...I'M KIND OF FEELING SOME CHEMISTRY BETWEEN US...



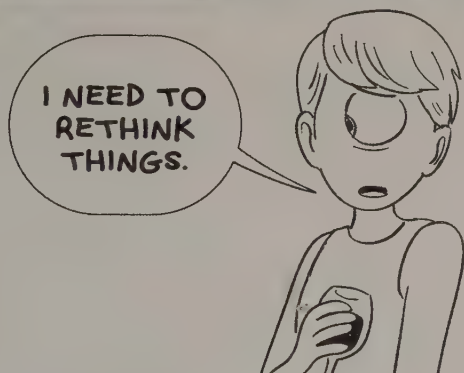
OH HELL NO. YOU MADE MY LIFE HELL! MY LIFE IS NOT A PROBLEMATIC FANFIC WHERE WE END UP TOGETHER. BYEEE.

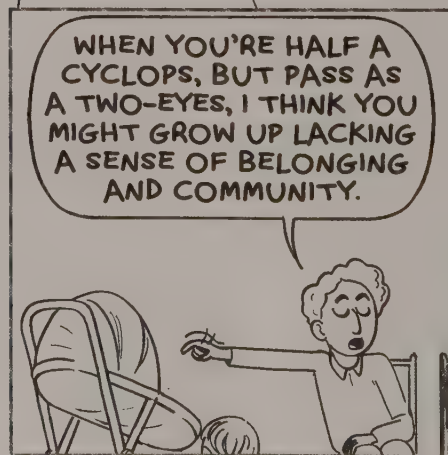


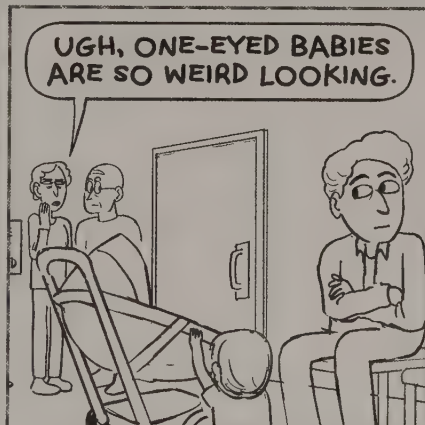
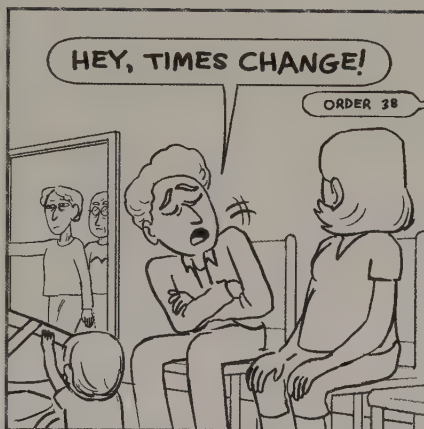
## Rethink things



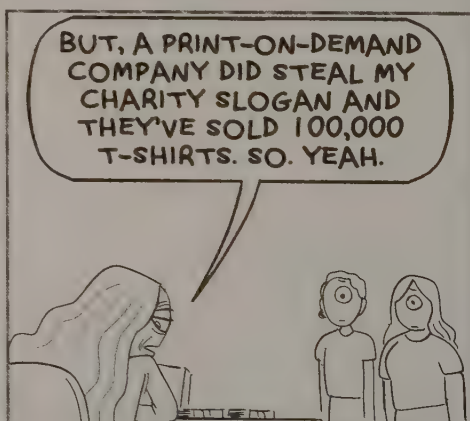
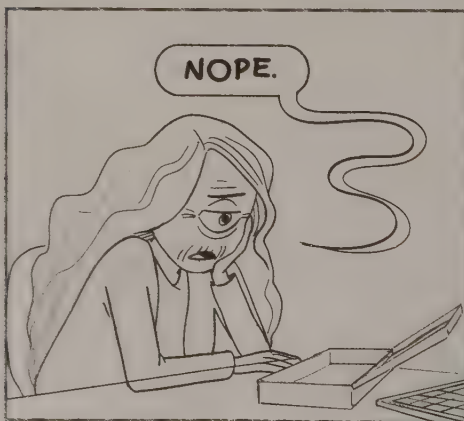
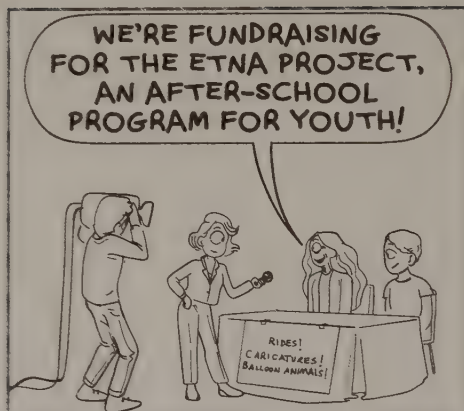




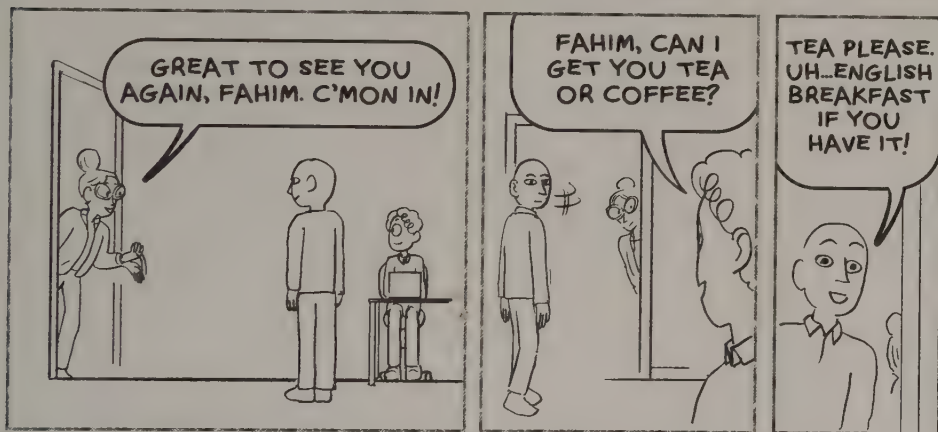
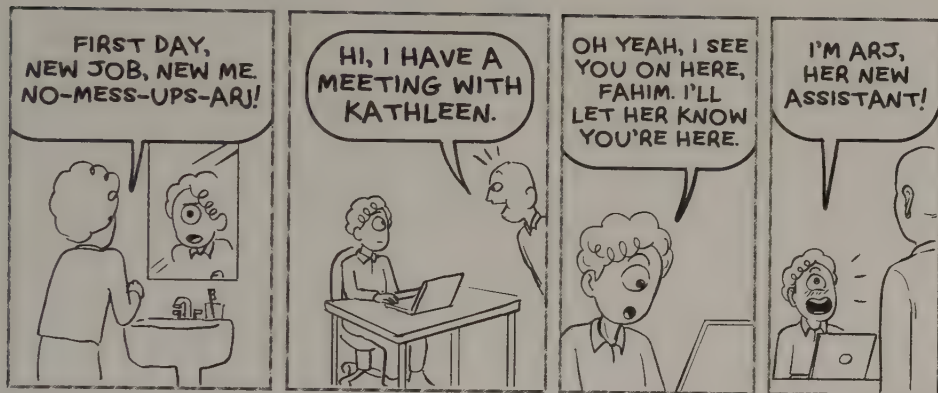




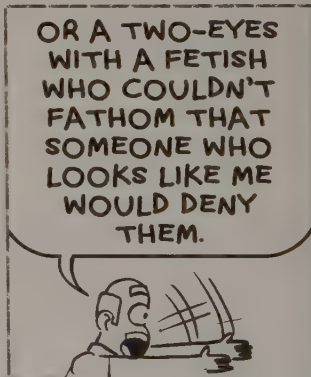
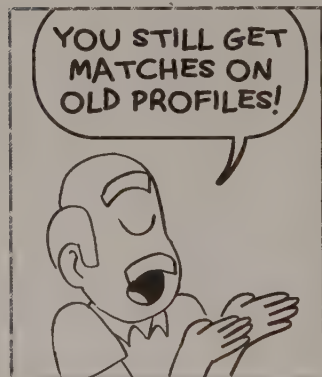
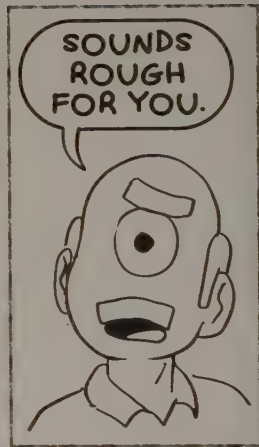
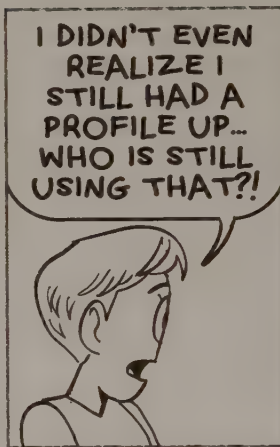
# Fundraiser



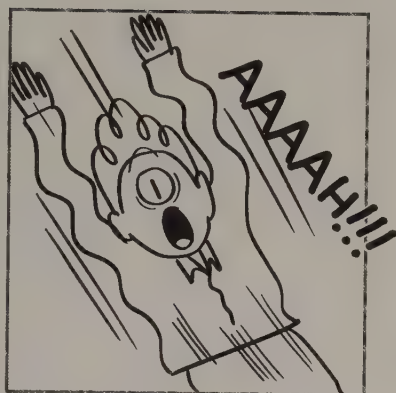
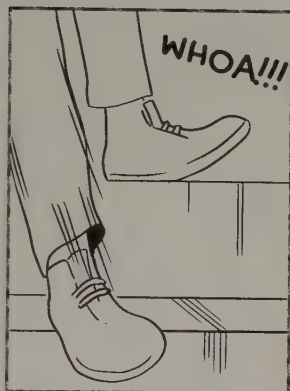
## Arj gets a new job



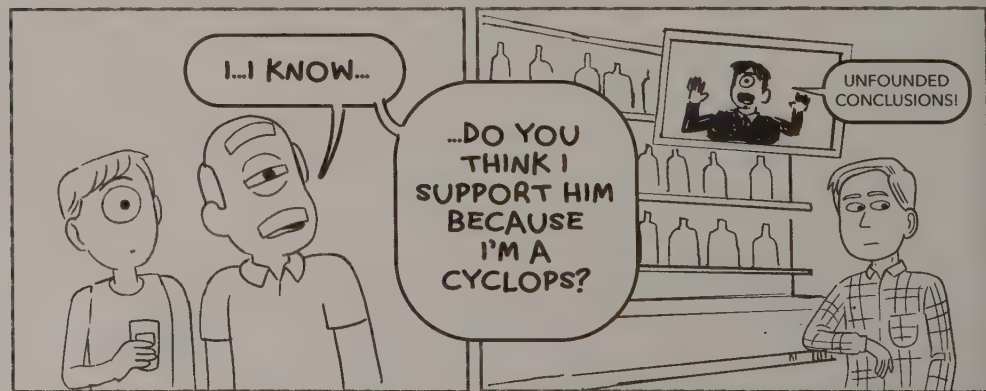
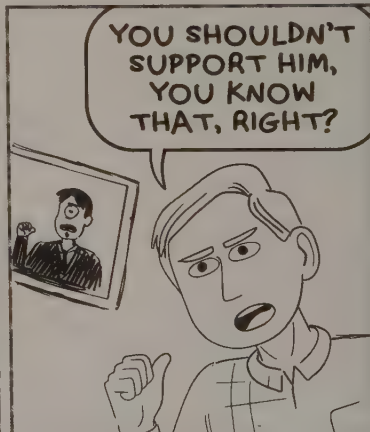
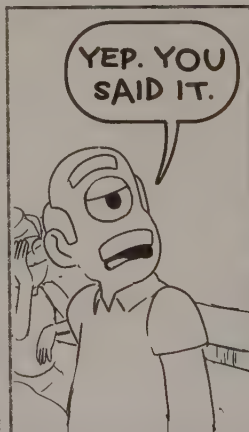
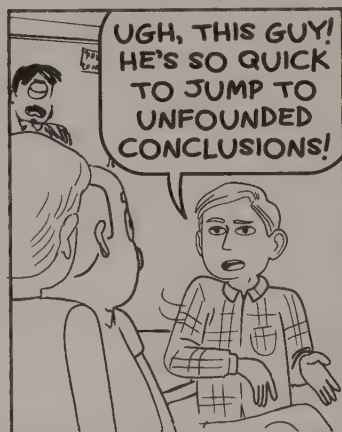




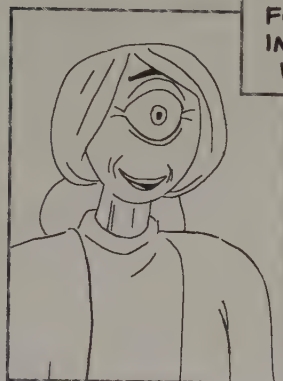
## A new Arj



## Conclusions

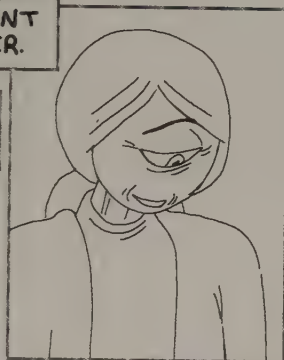
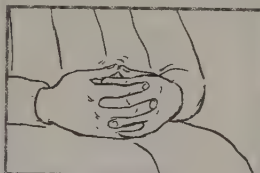


## Etna on Etna



I DESPERATELY WISHED  
FOR SWEEPING CHANGES  
IN CYCLOPS TREATMENT  
WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.

BUT CHANGE IS  
SLOW AND STUBBORN.



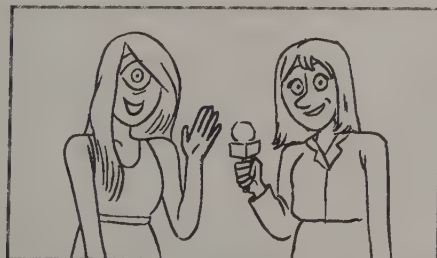
WHEN THE  
COVER WAS  
PUBLISHED,  
I WAS  
CONSIDERED  
THE FIRST  
SEX SYMBOL  
FOR A  
GROUP OF  
PEOPLE  
WHO WERE  
"UNSEXY."

AND THEN I WAS RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THEIR OVER-SEXUALIZATION  
WHEN THE SUBMISSIVE CYCLOPS  
TROPE EMERGED.

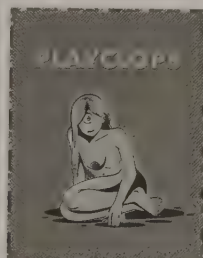


WHEN ENOUGH TIME HAD  
PASSED, NOSTALGIA MADE  
ME LIKED AGAIN. THEN,  
NOSTALGIA MADE ME  
DISLIKED AGAIN.

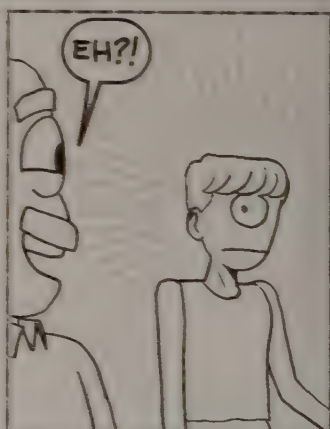
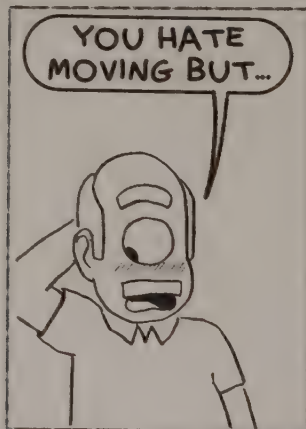
AND APPARENTLY NOW, I'M A  
PIONEER. IT'S REFRESHING  
FEELING THE ORIGINAL  
EMPOWERMENT AGAIN.



THE ONLY  
THING THAT'S  
STAYED  
THE SAME  
IS THE COVER.





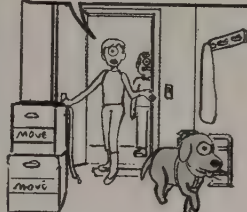




UUUUUUUUUT ONLY BECAUSE I WAS  
GOING TO ASK YOU TO  
MOVE IN WITH ME.



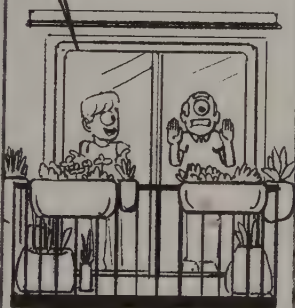
THERE'S A FEW  
THINGS YOU'VE  
MENTIONED ON  
YOUR DREAM  
LIST FOR A  
HOUSE...



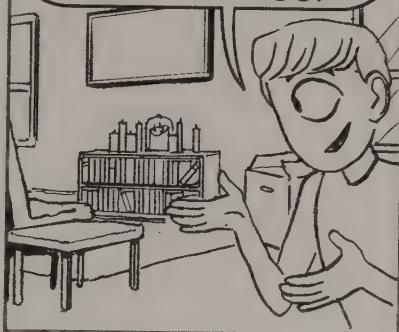
AND WHILE YOU  
KEEP LOOKING  
FOR PLACES,  
I THINK YOU  
SHOULD ENJOY  
SOME OF  
THOSE THINGS...



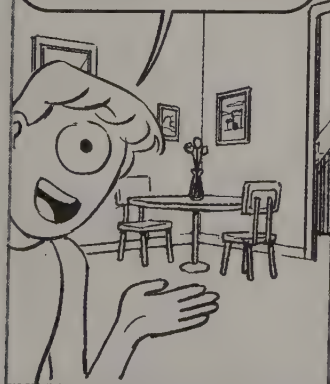
LIKE THIS "GARDEN"  
I SET UP TO GROW  
VEGETABLES.



THESE CANDLES—  
AHEM—I MEAN, FIREPLACE  
TO COZY UP TO AND  
ENJOY YOUR BOOKS.



AND A LI'L  
BREAKFAST NOOK!

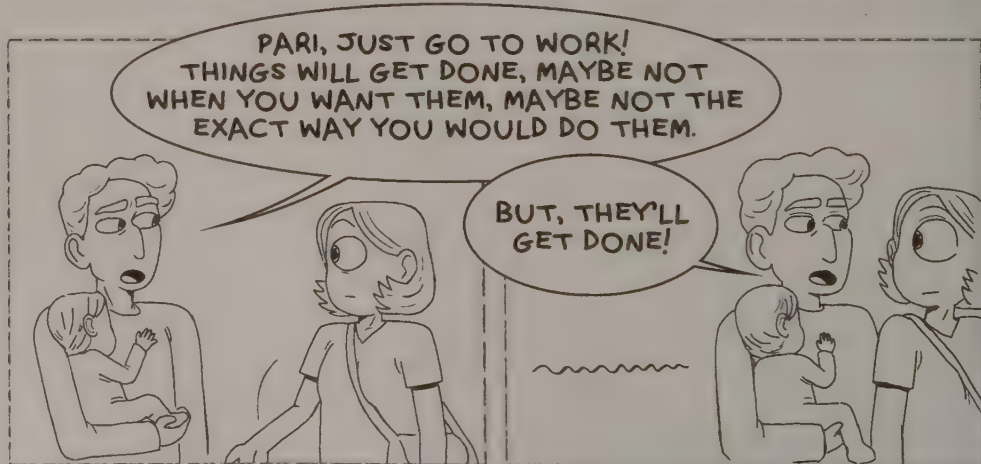
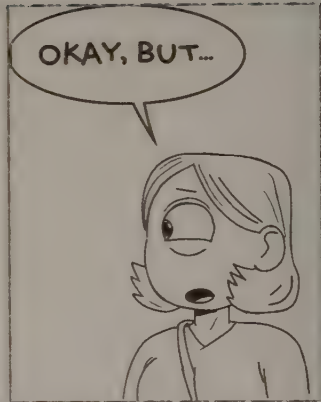
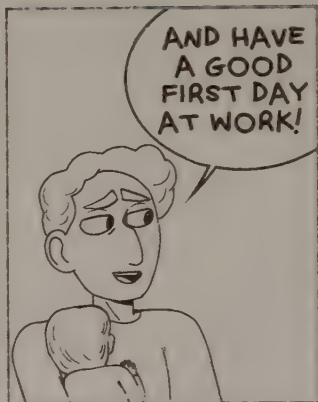


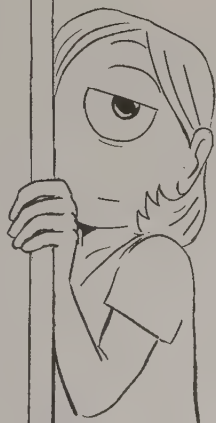
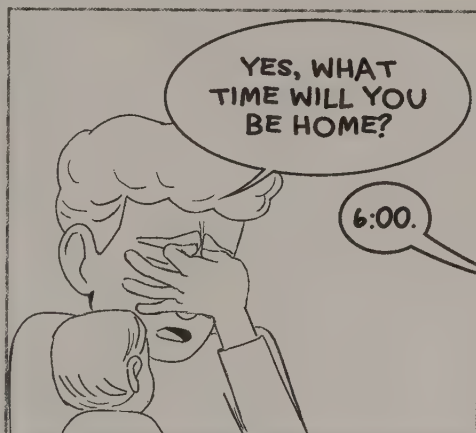
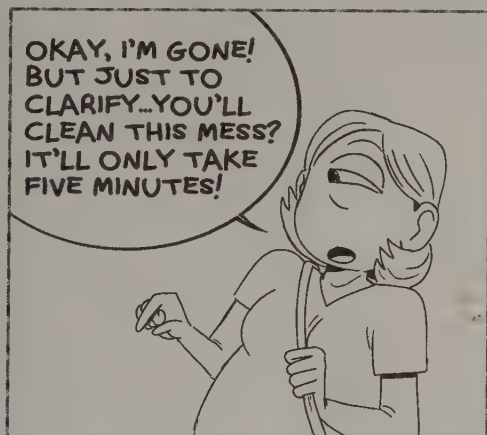
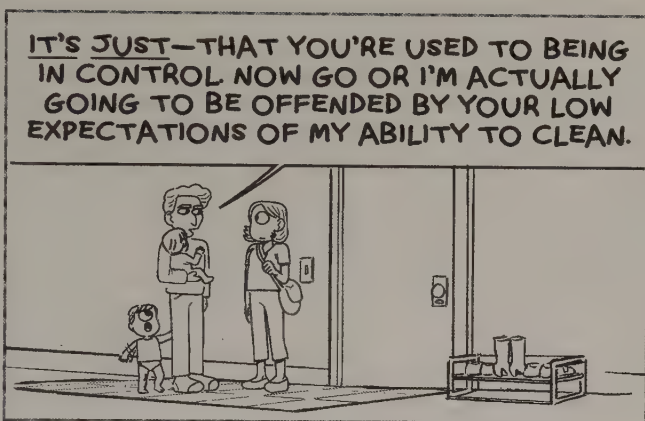
WOW! YOU DID ALL THIS FOR ME?

YEP, BUT ALSO FOR ME. NOW YOU'RE  
THE ONE THAT HAS TO MOVE.



## Five-minute mess



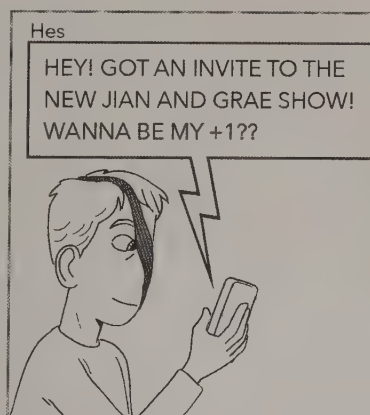
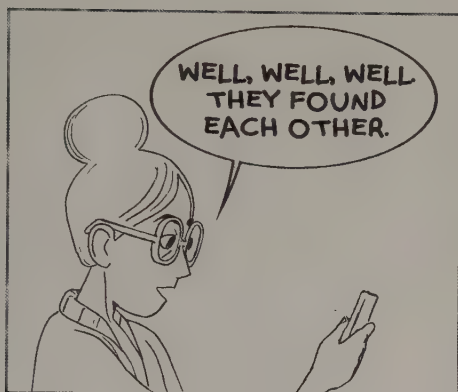


JIAN AND GRAE  
INVITE YOU TO EXPERIENCE

# EYE SORE

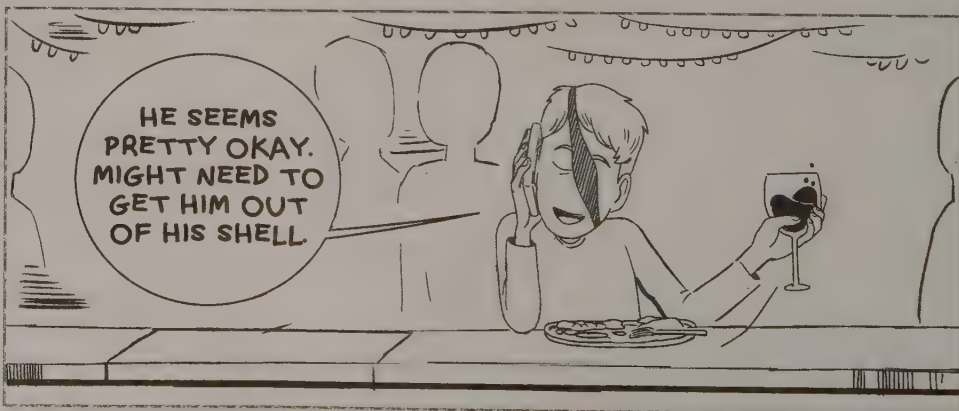
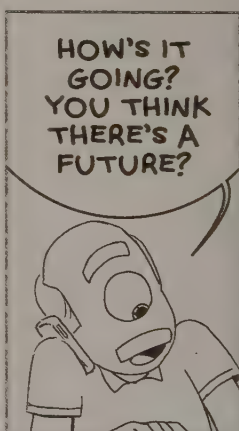
COMING SOON







# Date night



GIVE ME A RUN DOWN—  
CLOTHES, RESTAURANT,  
FLOWERS?



I DIDN'T DRESS UP MUCH.  
I DUNNO, I FELT STUPID,  
LIKE I WAS TRYING  
TOO HARD.



PFFT, YOU CAN NEVER  
TRY TOO HARD FOR  
YOURSELF. WHERE'S  
THE DATE?



I GOT A SEAT AT THE BAR  
AT SLCK AND THERE'S  
A MIRROR, SO I'VE GOT A  
NICE VIEW OF MY DATE.

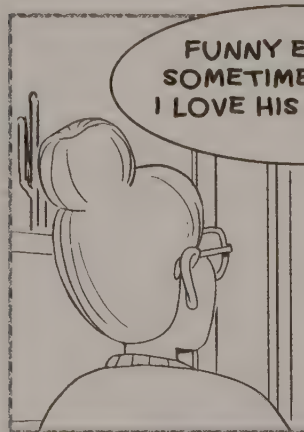
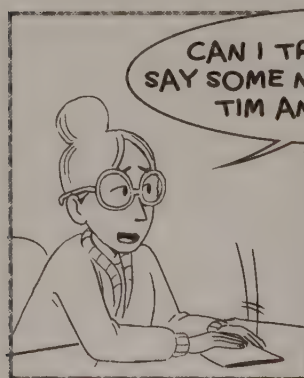
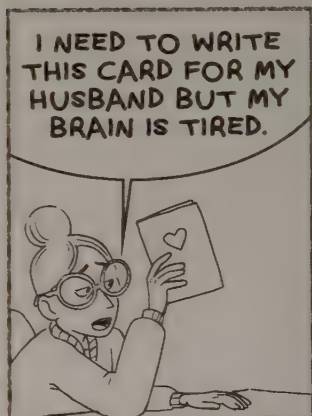
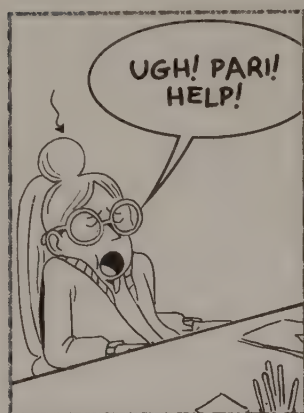


NO FLOWERS. BUT  
THE NIGHT IS  
YOUNG.



TREAT YOUR DATE,  
HE SOUNDS LIKE  
HE'S A KEEPER!  
K - I DON'T WANT  
TO KEEP YOU  
FROM YOURSELF!  
TALK SOON!

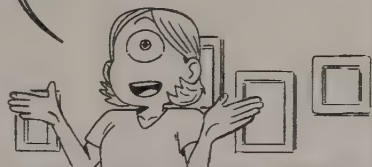
## Pari's inspiration



MY EXPERIENCES HAVE MADE ME A GUARDED PERSON AND I ADORE HIS OPENNESS TO THE WORLD. HE'S NEVER NEEDED THE DEFENSES I'VE BUILT UP. I'D LIKE TO SEE THE WORLD LIKE HIM.



HE'S ALSO INCREDIBLY KIND. I DON'T KNOW IF PRIVILEGE ALWAYS WARRANTS KINDNESS, BUT IN HIS CASE, HE WAS BORN WITH A GOOD HEART.



WHEN I'M SAD AT THE WORLD, HE'S MY HAPPY PLACE.

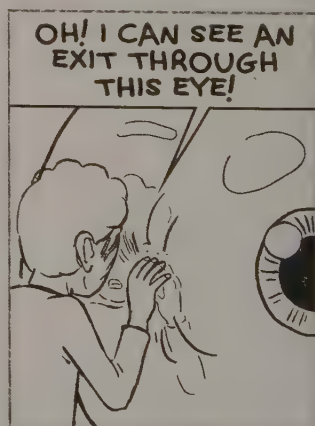
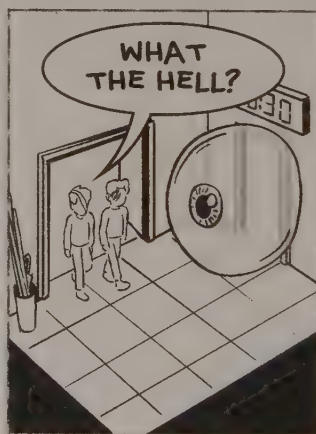
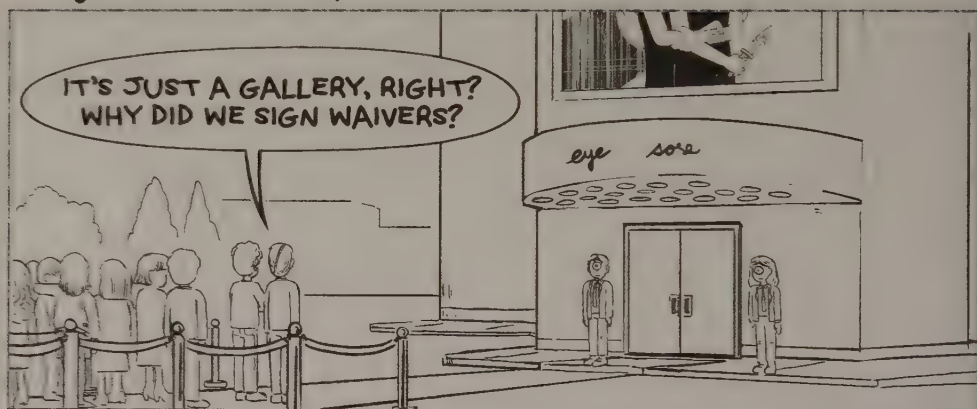


INSPIRING! I GUESS I'LL WRITE, "HEY HUSBAND I'M LEAVING YOU TO TRY AND DATE TIM!"

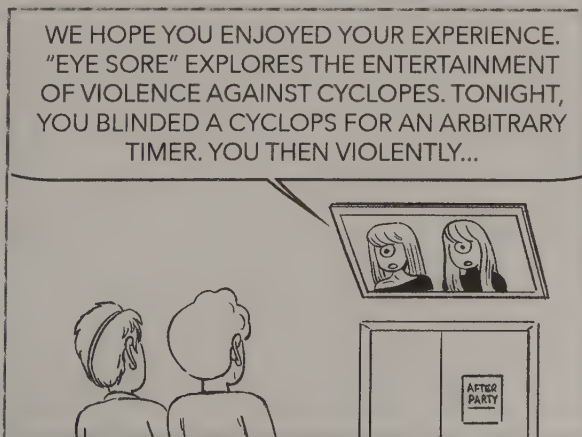
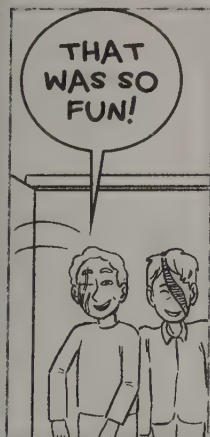
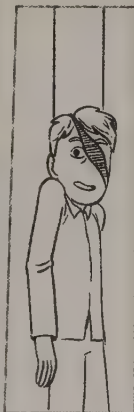


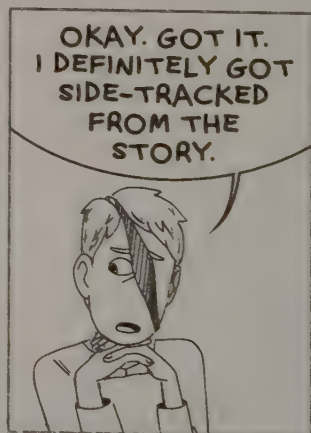
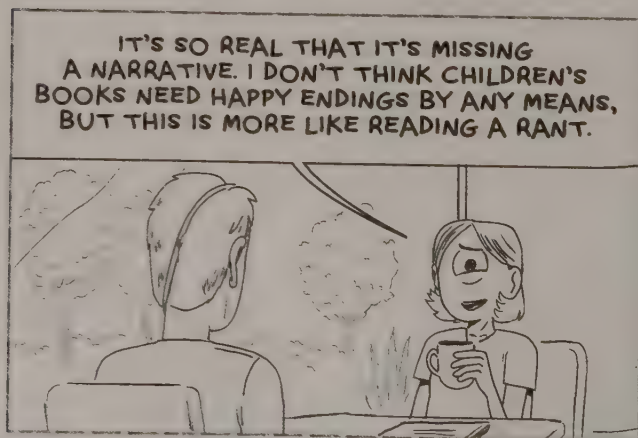
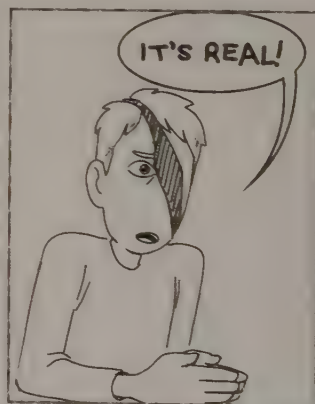
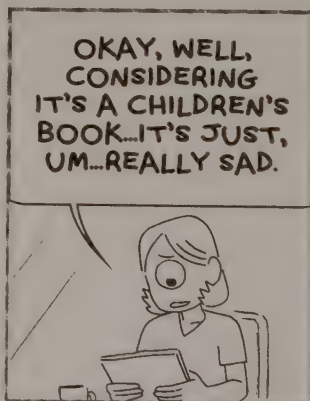


## Eye sore—the experience







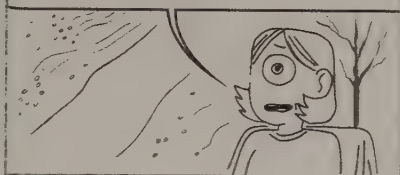


3  
MONTHS  
LATER

SO, I'M EXCITED TO  
HEAR WHAT YOU  
THOUGHT ABOUT  
THE NEWEST DRAFT...



I THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE  
TAKEN THIS TOO FAR. THIS  
IS A REALLY HAPPY STORY.  
IT MIGHT BE WORTH  
REFLECTING ON WHY YOU  
WANTED TO WRITE THIS  
IN THE FIRST PLACE.

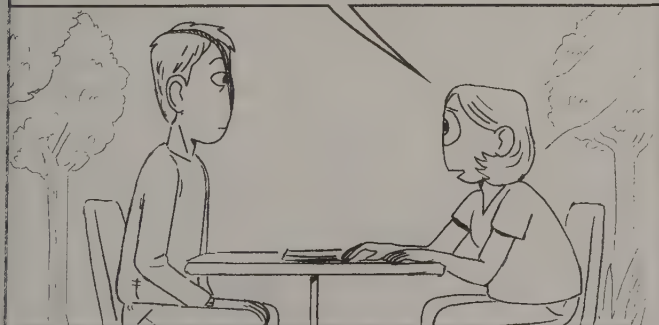


5  
MONTHS  
LATER

I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY!  
I'M SO EXCITED ABOUT THIS DRAFT.  
IT'S THE ONE—I CAN FEEL IT!

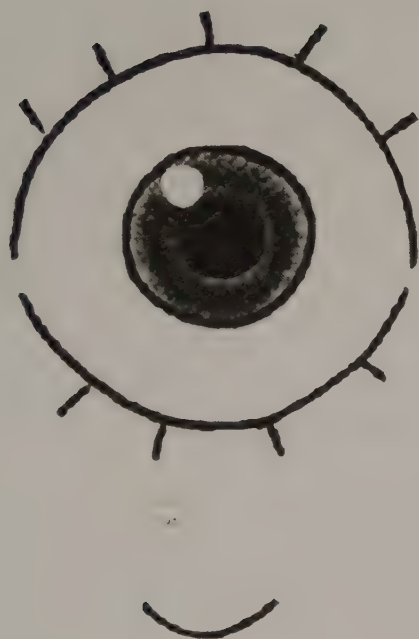


BRON...PLEASE DON'T BE MAD...BUT, THIS  
IS ALMOST EXACTLY "SUZY'S ONE EYE."



OKAY. FINALLY TIME  
TO REREAD THIS  
DARN BOOK.





SUZY'S ONE EYE



It was the day before Hallowéén! And all the children in Northbank were in a frenzy to finish up costumes, hollow out pumpkins, and triple-check their trick-or-treat paths.

Suzy loved Halloween!





She and her friends carefully traced a treat-filled path on their neighborhood map. Mara was in charge and she avoided the scariest house in the neighborhood...the haunted house on Hollyhaven Avenue.

Everyone knew to avoid that house. A monster lived there. Suzy didn't need any convincing. She furiously agreed. She always avoided that house, even when it wasn't Halloween!



With their plans all set, Mara turned to Suzy, “For Halloween, I’m going as a brave knight, with shiny armor and a horse!”

Suzy couldn’t believe it! “I’m going as a knight too!”

“But...you can’t be a knight,” said Mara, giggling.

“You have one eye!”



Suzy's smile melted, but Mara didn't notice.

Mara giggled, "Knight? Oh Suzy, you're so funny!"

After Mara left, Suzy stayed out a little longer. She desperately wished she had two eyes. With two eyes, she could be anything for Halloween.



On Halloween, Suzy wanted to stay in. She purposely missed meeting with Mara and the others.

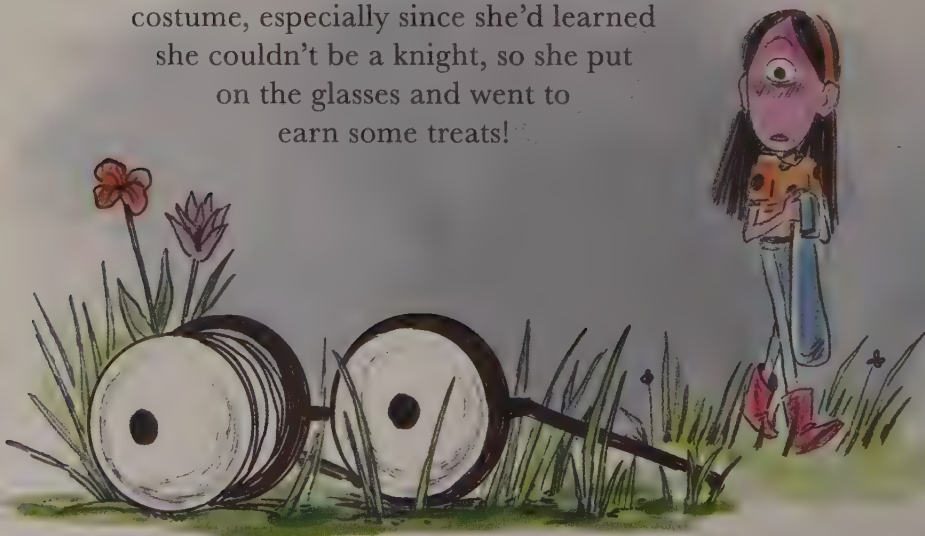
When her mom asked her what was wrong, Suzy wouldn't tell her.

So, her mom insisted Suzy go out and enjoy Halloween. "There's so much candy, Suzy, and I know you'll regret it if you don't!"

Suzy headed out, deciding to avoid Mara and the group at all costs.



Down the street, Suzy noticed a pair of eyes staring at her from the grass. It was a pair of googly eye glasses! Suzy wasn't wearing a costume, especially since she'd learned she couldn't be a knight, so she put on the glasses and went to earn some treats!

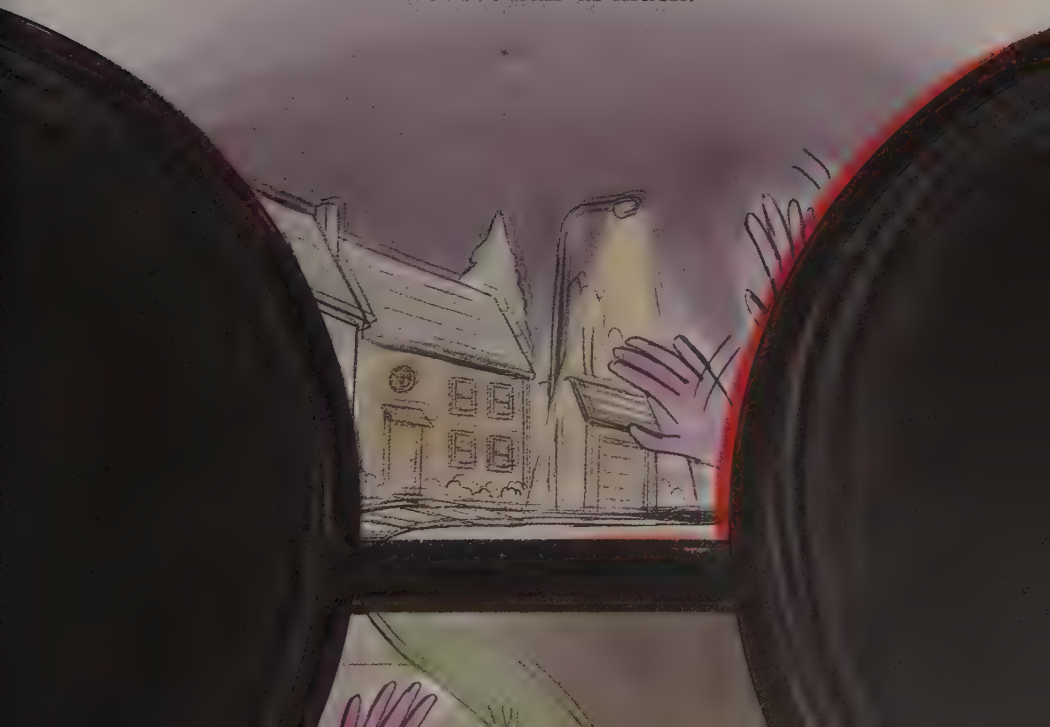






She roamed the street with two eyes!  
No more One-Eyed Suzy!!

The problem was, she could barely  
see a thing. Having two eyes made  
her see half as much!



Without a clue, Suzy waltzed up to the front door of the  
haunted house on Hollyhaven Avenue!



*Knock, knock, knock.*  
"Trick or treat!"  
She called, but no  
one answered.

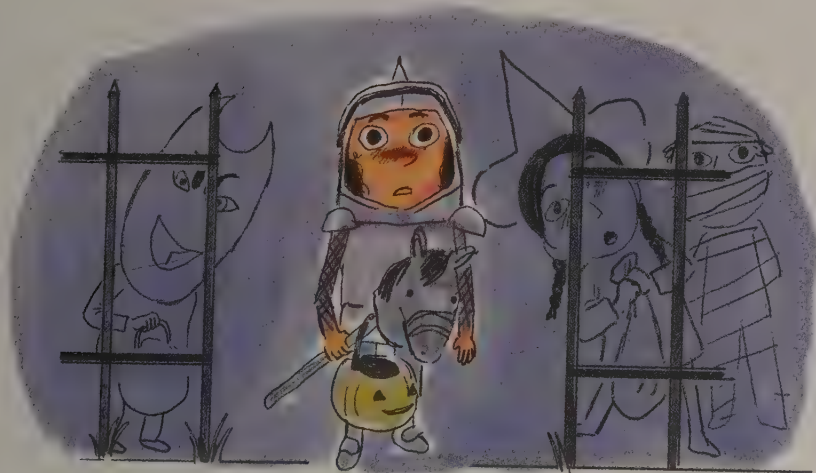


Mara and the group were passing by, avoiding the haunted house, when they noticed Suzy standing bravely at the door. She was knocking loudly.

*Knock, knock, knock.*

Growing impatient, Suzy shouted, "Trick or Treat!"

Mara and the others stopped to watch in awe.

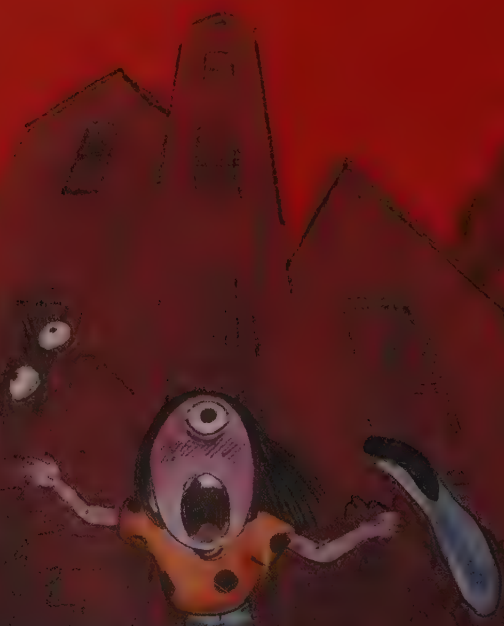




Suzy banged at the door, one last time, yelling, "TRICK OR TRE—"

She took the glasses off to get a better look...

OH NO! The haunted house of Hollyhaven Avenue!  
There was a dangerous monster on the other side of  
the door! Suzy turned to run!



*CREEEEAK.*

The door opened.

Uh oh.

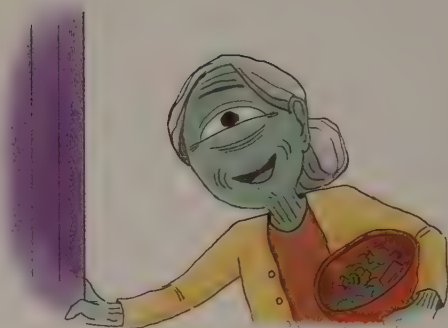
Suzy stopped in her tracks and  
turned to face the monster...





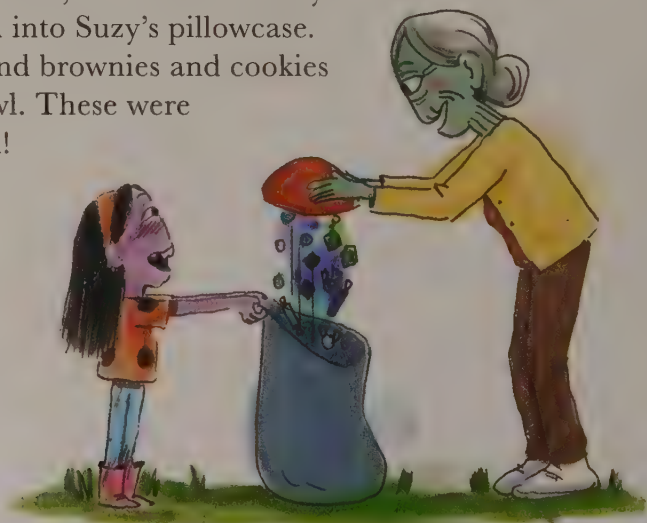
But instead of a monster, stood  
a small, old Cyclops.

She popped her head out and  
said cheerily, "Hello! I never get  
trick-or-treaters, so I couldn't  
believe my ears when I heard  
knocking. I'm sorry it took me  
so long to open the door!"



All the thoughts in Suzy's head vanished.  
She stood rooted in place.

The old lady smiled, "Here, have all the candy."  
And emptied her bowl into Suzy's pillowcase.  
Full-size candy bars and brownies and cookies  
poured out of the bowl. These were  
the best treats in town!



Suzy finally found some words, "Th-Thank you, but...why don't you get trick-or-treaters? These are the best treats!"

The old Cyclops pondered for a moment before answering. "When I moved into this house, many of the parents thought someone who looked like me couldn't possibly be a good neighbor. They thought a good neighbor has two eyes! So stories spread about me and my house, and those parents told their children to stay away from me, because I scared them. I might not be a monster, but some people fear me like one."





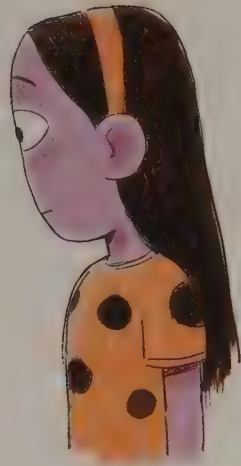
Shocked, Suzy exclaimed, "But a good neighbor can have one eye or two!"

And then thought to herself, *and a knight can too.*

Confidently, Suzy turned to the neighborhood kids and introduced them to the lovely Cyclops of Hollyhaven Avenue! Their newest but oldest neighbor!

Then Suzy ripped open her pillowcase, ready to share the treats.





Mara stopped short. First, she had something to say...



"I'm sorry, Suzy! You make a great knight!"

“But you said I couldn’t be a knight with one eye!”





Mara shook her head, "I was wrong! I pretended to be a brave knight, but you walked right up to the haunted house and showed us there was no monster. It takes real bravery, like a knight, to do something like that!"

After that, Suzy and Mara made up and ate lots of candy! And after Halloween, the haunted house was just another house on Hollyhaven Avenue. And even farther after that, any kid could dress up as anything on Halloween, no matter how many eyes they had.



HUH. THAT WASN'T  
WHAT I REMEMBER...

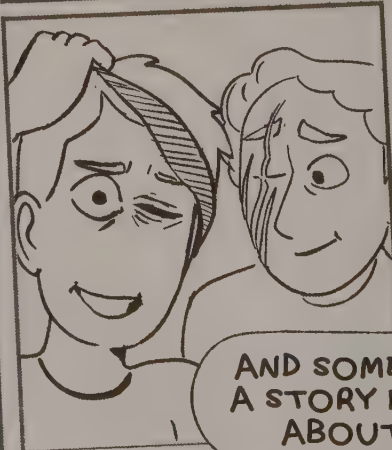


DID I MAKE UP THAT  
PART WHERE SUZY WAS  
BEATEN UP BY HER  
SO-CALLED FRIENDS?



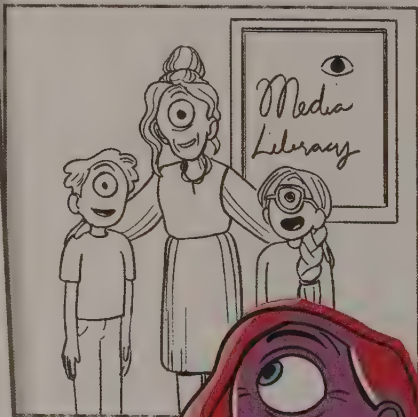
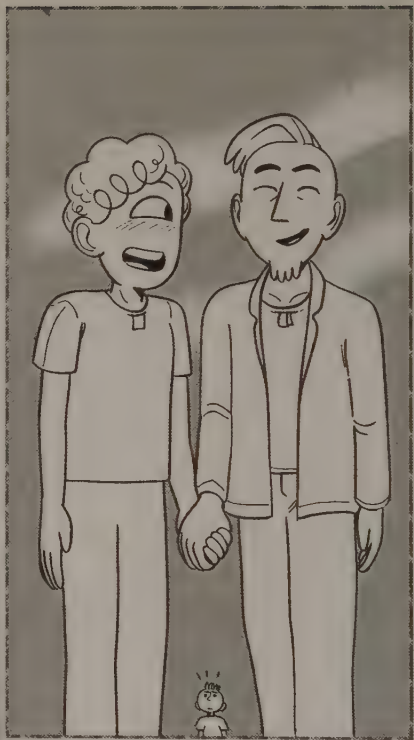
SOMETIMES,  
THERE'S A  
STORY WE TELL  
OURSELVES.





AND SOMETIMES,  
A STORY IS TOLD  
ABOUT US.

*cyclopes night*









SOME PARTS OF OUR  
STORY DEFINE US.  
BUT THE NUANCE  
AND HUMANITY IS  
LOST IN THE  
ENCYCLOPEDIAS.

# PLAYCLOPS

10th Anniversary Edition



**ETNA'S BACK!**

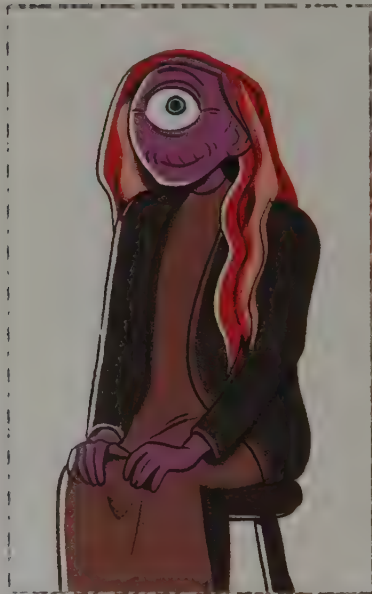


FIG. 479. Etna.

## Etna

(Figure 479).

Etna was the first Cyclops cover model for a national magazine. Her breakout success on the cover resulted in a short-lived popularity. After her initial acclaim, people demonized her for posing nude. The cover would resurface every decade. Depending on the time, she was a pioneer or a traitor.

As a senior, Etna returned to the *Playclops* cover one more time. In the interim, she devoted her time to help at-risk Cyclopes with her charity, The Etna Project.

## AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

A sketchbook page of Etna drawings is how I started this series. I kind of thought it would be cool to do a drawing of a Cyclops with one eye and one breast. That's the simple truth of how *Cyclopedia Exotica* started.

After one sketchbook page came many more pin-ups of my mysterious Cyclops lady. The original idea with Etna was she would be a beloved sex symbol. And that was it. But the idea morphed into using Etna as an anchoring point for Cyclopean history. I liked the irony of pairing her never-changing *Playclops* cover alongside changing times.

I also thought she could serve as an inspirational role model to Latea, an aspiring model. Early in the graphic novel, she pins up the *Playclops* cover in her apartment. Latea feels her small modeling jobs are meaningless. I imagined her getting home late from a mundane eye-cream shoot, and staring at the cover. Feeling its immensity—the cover that changed everything.

## MOUNT ETNA

(Figure 480).

An active volcano on the coast of Sicily, Italy. In Greek mythology, it is where the Cyclopes made their home.

FIG. 480. Mount Etna erupts.



## Tim & Pari

(Figure 481).

Tim and Pari met in college and have been together since. Tim grew up in a predominantly Two-Eyed community. Pari did too. And because of that, Pari was certain she would never date a Two-Eyes. Cue rom-com. Cut to the present: Tim and Pari are the parents of two mixed kids. They've come a long way.

Pari struggles with uncertainty about whether she will return to work. She always thought she'd be a stay-at-home mom. With Tim's help, she returns to work.

### AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

With Pari, I wanted to explore being a minority with a good job. She feels pressured to keep working because there aren't many Cyclopes in her position. But she also wants to be a stay-at-home mom.

Although it's never stated, the hidden reason for Pari's indecision is she has few role models. There are few Cyclopes in top positions—her boss is a Two-Eyes. With no role models, she's internalized the idea that there's no position for her. She assumes once she has a family, she'll leave her job.



FIG. 481.  
Tim and Pari.

Her desire to keep working creates dissonance. That's where Tim comes in. With him, I wanted to show the power of a supportive spouse. Early on with Tim, I played with making him more of an obstacle in her story. But Pari already had so many struggles, I didn't want to add another. It came out better that he was her biggest cheerleader.

I also had fun including a couple comics where they wonder about the lives of their own kids.



FIG. 482. The island of Lipari.



### ISLAND OF LIPARI

(Figure 482).

The largest of the Aeolian Islands. It is associated with Homer's *Odyssey* and Cyclopes.

## Latea

(Figure 483).

Latea is an aspiring model and actress. Although she's glad to be doing commercial work, she has bigger dreams. Etna is a hero of hers. If it wasn't for Etna's infamous cover, her career options would be even more limited.

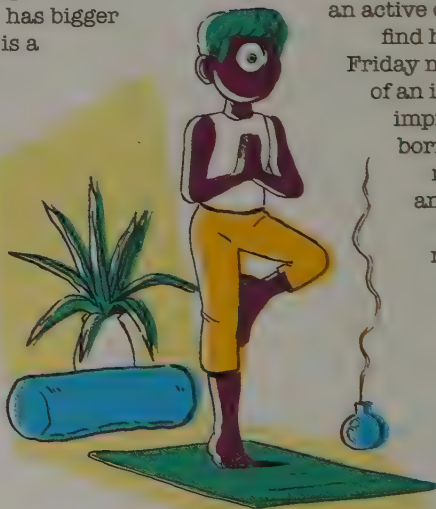


FIG. 483. Latea practices yoga.

Latea spends her day job modeling mundane products. It's not her dream career.

Before meeting Pol, Latea had an active dating life. She'd find herself out every Friday night, on the arm of an impressive man—impressive on paper, boring in real life—a man who needed an exotic escort to make him seem more interesting. Latea was close to giving up on love. Pol was one of the first to see her for more than her looks.

## AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

With Latea, I wanted to follow a character who society considers beautiful, but is also from a community society doesn't consider to be conventionally beautiful. I paired her with Pol, who is prematurely bald and overweight, to show how society treats each of them differently. Although I didn't end up exploring this theme further, it popped up in some comics, such as "Rethink things" (see pages 202–203).

## GALATEA

(Figure 484).

A sea nymph, Galatea often appears as an object of Polyphemus's love. But in *The Triumph of Galatea*, Raphael chose to center her in a divine pose, riding a shell drawn by dolphins. She is so much more than just a love interest.

FIG. 484

Galatea the sea nymph.



## APPENDIX

### CYCLOPEDIA EXOTICA

---

#### Pol

(Figure 485).

Pol is on the search for love. But love is hard when society tokenizes, fetishizes, and treats Cyclopes differently in general.

When Pol meets Latea, everything changes. He's in love. And with love, it feels like he can start the rest of his life. Like finding a house. But he discovers it to be a long, arduous process. Pol learns life doesn't wait for goals.

#### AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

Pol has been at a disadvantage most of his life. In contrast, Latea is "conventionally" beautiful.

Latea gets a "pass" for many things he has struggled with. He's young, balding prematurely, out of shape, and a Cyclops. The world isn't as kind to him. Despite that, Pol has spent a lifetime learning to love himself. In return, he displays a deep, full, reverberating love for his friends and family. With the house storyline, I thought I would push a character who's so "figured out" back into a place of struggle.

#### POLYPHEMUS

(Figure 486).

The man-eating Cyclops from Homer's *Odyssey*. In later European interpretations, he's a musician pursuing unrequited love.



FIG. 485. Pol's  
bar and plants.



FIG. 486. Polyphemus  
tends to his sheep.





## Bron

(Figure 487).

Bron had an unsuccessful surgery to change his appearance from Cyclops to Two-Eyes. The botched surgery resulted in him having to wear an eye patch over a dead eye. For the short time the second eye worked, Bron was happier. His story is one of self-love.

## AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

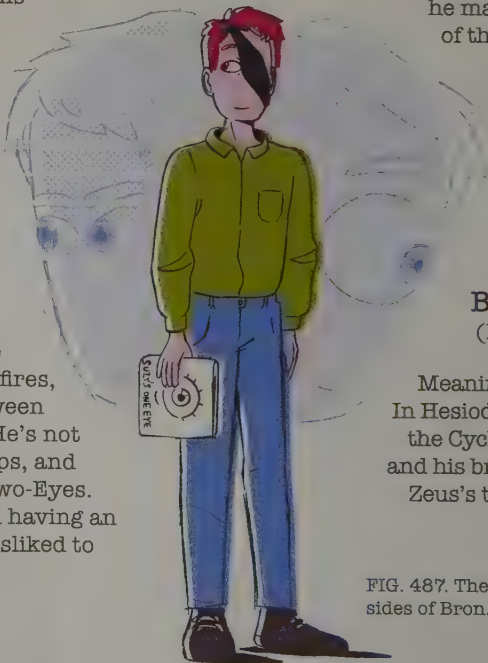
My intention with Bron was to make a character who struggles with his own identity.

For much of his life, being a Cyclops was a disadvantage. So Bron did everything possible to distance himself from it, including a surgery to get two eyes. But when the surgery backfires, he's lost between two worlds. He's not quite a Cyclops, and not quite a Two-Eyes. He went from having an identity he disliked to

having no identity at all. I wanted to put him on a journey of self-discovery.

With the *Suzy's One Eye* storyline, I wanted to explore ideas of stories. The stories we tell ourselves, the stories we are told, and the stories that define us. I wanted Bron to hate a book that he read as a child. A book that encouraged kids to be true to themselves. The message was at odds with how the world made him feel. Later in the novel, when he finally reads *Suzy's One Eye*, it's not the story he thought it was. In fighting against the notion "of being true to oneself,"

he made up parts  
of the story that  
were never  
there.



## BRONTES (Figure 488).

Meaning "thunder." In Hesiod's *Theogony*, the Cyclops Brontes and his brothers craft Zeus's thunderbolts.

FIG. 487. The two sides of Bron.

FIG. 488. Brontes crafts a thunderbolt.



## Jian & Grae

(Figure 489).

Jian and Grae are artists who dress alike and explore Cyclopean issues in their art. Later in the novel, they have a falling out, each thinking she doesn't need the other. They later reunite, realizing that sometimes two eyes are better than one.

### AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

My original plan with Jian and Grae was to cut away to a silly drawing, just to have them give it meaningful context. But I fell in love with their whole vibe.

I thought I could explore their passion for meaningful work and struggle with vanity.

With Grae's departure, I explored "selling out." For Jian, I wanted to show the malleability of confidence. Where she once held firm beliefs on the importance of her art as a team, her confidence melts when she's alone.

## JIAN AND GRAEAE

(Figure 490 and 491).

Jian are birds from Chinese mythology with one eye and one wing. Two birds depend on each other.

Graeae are three witches from Greek mythology that share one eye and see visions.



FIG. 489.  
Jian and  
Grae.



FIG. 490. Jian

FIG. 491 Graeae.

## Vy

(Figure 492).

Vy was the face of the Lift and Separator. She later regretted being part of the brand and turned to teaching Media Literacy for Cyclopean youth.

## AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

Young Vy's only modeling opportunities were for problematic products—products that reinforced that Cyclopes should change themselves to be more like Two-Eyes. When the job market is narrow, values fall to the wayside. I wanted to explore Vy's struggle with her own choices and how she spends a lifetime making up for it.

## VIRGIL

(Figure 493).

An ancient Roman poet who wrote the Latin epic *Aeneid*, in which the characters revisit Polyphemus and his island.



FIG. 492. Vy.

FIG. 493. A bust of Virgil.



## Arj

(Figure 494).

Arj is sweet, adorable, and a little clumsy. The pressure he feels to be perfect (the cause of his clumsiness) stems from a childhood bully.

## AUTHOR'S INTENTIONS

When I was a kid, I went to a friend's house for dinner. When her family sat down and said grace, I didn't know what they were doing, but I bowed my head, clasped my hands, and "camouflaged." I feared doing something wrong, and was uncomfortable going to friends' houses for a little while after that. With Arj, I wanted to root his awkwardness in something real. One bully defined Arj. He wouldn't be as clumsy if he didn't overthink things.

## ARGES

(Figure 495).

Meaning "bright." One of the Cyclopes, Arges, along with Brontes and Steropes, fashioned lightning bolts for Zeus.

FIG. 495. Arges welds the bright light of lightning bolts.



FIG. 494. Arj.

APPENDIX  
CYCLOPEDIA EXOTICA

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This graphic novel wouldn't be possible without  
the following people, thank you...

Nikolas Ilic for more things than I could list here.

Kenneth Hung for proofreading comics at god-awful hours.

Megan Dong and Maha Tabikh for notes.

Peggy, Tom, Tracy, Alison, Megan, Lucia, Trynne, Julia, Kaiya,  
Ann, Tomoko, and Jiyeon at Drawn and Quarterly for getting  
this book made. Even through a worldwide pandemic.

And finally, you, the readers of the comic.

Thank you for picking up this book.

(Figure 495).



SECRET FANTASY

I CAN'T, YOU'D BE GROSSED OUT

WHAT IF WE BOTH WRITE THEM DOWN?

YOU WANT TO SEE MY FANTASY, I'VE GOT A TON OF WEIRD STUFF

WHO'S IN HERE?

OH MY GOD! THIS IS A WORD! (Giggling) I can't believe it's a word! I mean, I've never seen it before, but it's a word! (Giggling)

It's a word! I mean, I've never seen it before, but it's a word! (Giggling)

I'M FEELING ENERGIZED

WOOOO!

I AM THE CREATOR OF LIFE!

CYCLOPS

DO I COUNT?

I LOVE IT! IT'S A SMALL IDEA - IN FREQUENT "KNOW" EVEN COPY EDITING.

smaller and smaller anyway

I feel like I just learnt too much, only about your life

PLEASE TELL ME YOU'RE COMING BACK TO WORK AFTER THE PARTY - I MISS YOU!

I JUST LEARNED A LOT ABOUT YOUR SEX LIFE



When I was younger I was all the rage

dividing names properly

mono I don't mean everyone was jealous of it

I mean it was all the rage and self-harm felt fantastic my cyclops body that let me do it

hi, I just wanted to be the best in class (Gor milk)

FIG. 495. A hidden bonus THANK YOU!



APPENDIX  
CYCLOPEDIA EXOTICA

---



FIG. 496.

Aminder Dhaliwal (Figure 496) is a native of Brampton, Ontario, and received a Bachelor of Animation from Sheridan College. She now lives in Los Angeles, working in animation. She published her first graphic novel, *Woman World*, with Drawn and Quarterly in 2018. She has serialized *Cyclopedia Exotica* weekly on Instagram since 2019.



APPENDIX  
CYCLOPEDIA EXOTICA

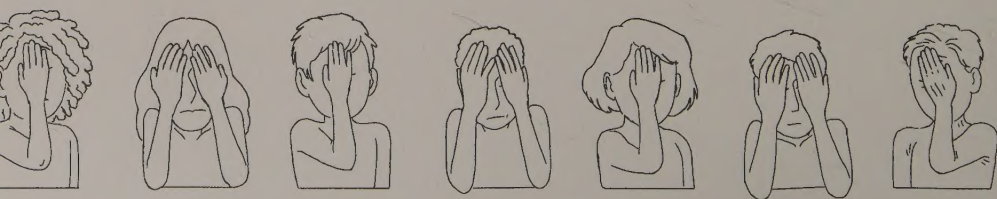
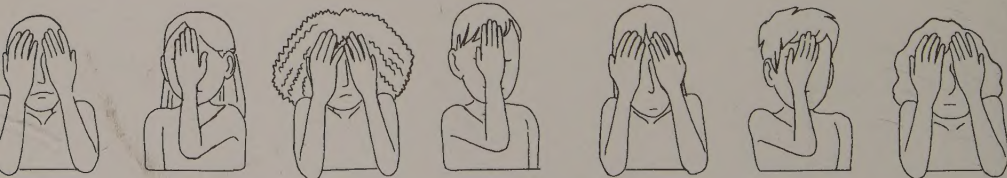
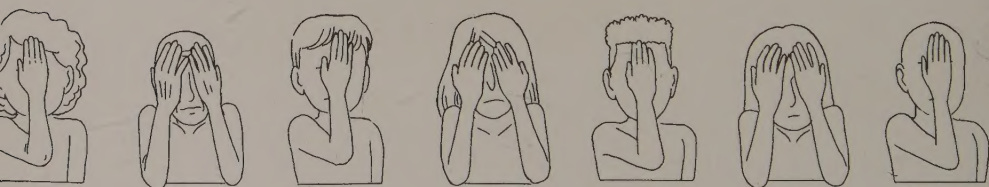
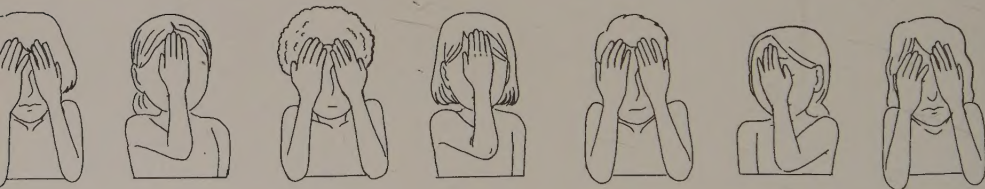
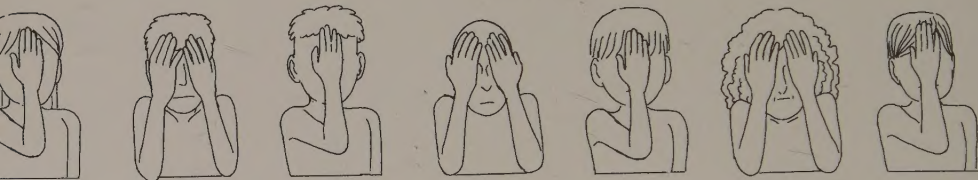
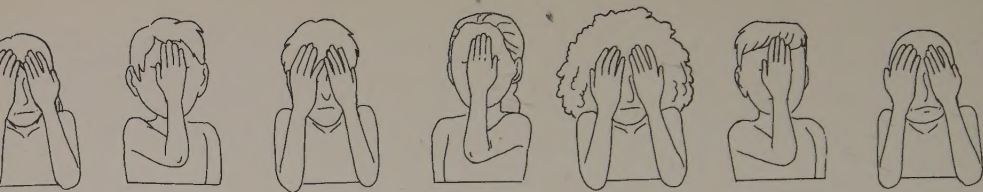
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FIG. 497



Nikolas Ilic (Figure 497) is an Emmy award-winning production artist working in animation and children's books. Born and raised in Canada, Nikolas graduated from Sheridan College in 2011, with a bachelor's degree in Animation. He lives in Los Angeles, California.









"The lives of ten characters in the same city intertwine as each grapples with living in an otherized body. Their physical differences are fetishized, marketed to, discriminated against, and misunderstood, as bodies are in our own world. What to do when people see your single eye but not yourself? Rage about it, laugh about it, make art about it, and work to change the world for the better. Aminder Dhaliwal is such a deft and clever storyteller! This book made me giggle and made me think, and it fueled my own determination to continue pushing for real social change."

—**MAIA KOBABE**, author of *Gender Queer: A Memoir*

"Unflinching satire, eye brow-wagging commentary, and thought-provoking pearls on the topic of those who occupy marginalized identities. I didn't expect to laugh out loud at a complicated depiction of people at war with themselves and with everyone else, as they try to assimilate (or stand apart).

For anyone who has experienced the turbulence and pride of being "othered" in a dominant society, *Cyclopedia Exotica* will serve you equal parts reassurance and wistful pain."

—**HELLEN JO**,  
cartoonist, illustrator,  
and translator of  
*Uncomfortably Happily*

"Playful and provocative. A delightful delve into the lives of the not-so-monstrous!"

—**FELICIA DAY**,  
actor, writer, producer

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